

LADY ANTEBELLUM
DATE RELEASED FOR
TRIO'S NEW ALBUM,
OWN THE NIGHT {page 18}



GOT TALENT?
OSBOURNE DISHES
OUT TOUGH LOVE
ON TV {page 20}



CALGARY

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Wednesday, June 8,
2011

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Green. Kids



► Mayor Naheed Nenshi poses with a group of Calgary students during the Mayor's Environment Expo.

TODD VAUGHAN/METRO

Mayor goes green with city students

The Mayor's Environment Expo event is in its 22nd year and features 50 exhibitors showcasing Eco-action in Calgary. The event runs today and tomorrow and is open to the general public.

Calgary blaze consumes chickens and destroys barns

► Fire continued burning into early evening ► Water trucks were being shuttled to and from scene



TODD VAUGHAN
CALGARY@METRONews.ca

Four barns and the hens inside were destroyed after a commercial fire in northeast Calgary yesterday afternoon that will leave the province without half its egg production.

"I saw smoke from the highway and immediately thought fire," said Wesley Dougan, a truck driver who delivers to the farm.

Fire crews were called out to the Sparks Egg Farm at Range Road 283 shortly after 1:30 p.m. yesterday, and the fire burned throughout the afternoon, according to fire marshal Garth Rabel of the Rockyview fire department.

At this time, fire officials were unable to speculate on the cause of the blaze. Although Rabel did add that "the barns were all married

together, so they all burned together."

Rabel praised Spark's fire marshal for evacuating all 80 employees from the facility without any injuries.

"They had a good fire plan and fortunately managed to evacuate all the employees and get them onto busses," he said.

The fire department did manage to save the housing and workshops on the property.

"This facility produced about half of Alberta's eggs (and) between 15,000 and 30,000 hens, depending on the timing," said David Webb, the marketing communications co-ordinator for Alberta Egg Producers.

"Our other farms do have extra capacity, so that will help compensate for the loss of this farm," Webb added.



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20 minutes to a cleaner Calgary

Calgarians are being called upon to do their part in making the city just a little cleaner during today's 20 Minute Makeover.

Between 12:20 p.m. and 12:40 p.m., Mayor Naheed Nenshi, as well as members of GLAD and the Centre City and Clean to the Core Teams will be rolling up their sleeves to collect garbage.

The event will take place in front of Sport Chek on Stephen Avenue, but GLAD garbage bags and gloves will be available at the Central Library and Memorial Park Library. They will also be handed out along the 7th Avenue Southwest C-Train platforms with copies of Metro. ● METRO

EPA critical of pipeline proposal

The U.S. State Department's environmental review of a controversial Alberta-to-Texas pipeline proposal hasn't taken a close enough look at the ecological impacts the project could have, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

The EPA wants more information on how a potential oil spill would affect key drinking-water sources, and whether the project would harm wetlands and migratory birds.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Bundles of flowers from friends and family of a 16-year-old girl and a 20-year-old man who died in a weekend crash form a makeshift memorial at Stoney Trail and McKnight Boulevard.

TODD VAUGHAN/FOR METRO

'He was more than a brother, he was my best friend'

► Police released the man initially thought to have been the driver in the accident ► The five were returning from a road trip to Edmonton, family say



KATIE TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

Family of two men involved in a rollover Sunday are trying to pick up the pieces after losing one son and having the other arrested for driving the vehicle.

Late Sunday evening, a Honda CRV travelling at what police believe was a high rate of speed on Stoney Trail rolled on the ramp to McKnight Boulevard.

Tina Thanh Nguyen, 16, and Amrullah Safari, 20, were both ejected from the vehicle and later

died, according to police. Palwasha Safari, 19, said it wasn't until four hours after the wreck that her family was called to the hospital.

"My brother was in the hospital and we only got to see him for the last 30 minutes of his life," she said, adding she was the only one of her five other siblings that made it to the hospital. "It's not easy seeing your own brother die in front of your eyes."

"He was more than a brother, he was my best friend."

She said her older brother Faridullah Safari, 21, who was initially be-

lieved to be the driver, suffered minor injuries.

"We're just glad at least one of them made it," she said. "He's still in shock, too, because he was there, but the cops took him for false accusations on him when he wasn't the one who was driving."

Staff Sgt. Michael Watterston said police are continuing to investigate after receiving conflicting stories.

"At this stage, we're not 100 per cent certain who was actually driving the motor vehicle, so ... charges have not been laid at this point," said Watterston.

On the scene

- 1 When police arrived on scene, two people remained in the vehicle and one individual was outside the vehicle walking around.
- 2 The potential charges facing the driver of the vehicle include dangerous driving causing injury or death, or impaired driving causing injury or death.
- 3 Police collected breath samples at the scene.

1

news


String of accidents puts the safety of 'bounce houses' in the spotlight. Scan code for story.

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On the web at metronews.ca



Vancouver's notorious Green Men wade into hostile territory in Boston. Video at metronews.ca

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POLICE

Suspects sought in robbery

Police are searching for two suspects who robbed a 71-year-old woman near 11 Avenue Southwest on May 30.

One of the suspects grabbed the victim's purse and dragged her for a few feet before both

suspects fled on foot.

The first suspect is described as a male aboriginal, between 30 to 40 years old, around five feet seven inches tall, with brown eyes and black hair.

The second suspect is described as a female aboriginal, between 30 to 40 years old, with long, black hair.

Anyone with information is asked to call Police at 266-1234 or Crime Stoppers.

● METRO

Group seeks funds for wildfire awareness

A non-profit group is seeking \$1 million for a national pilot project to raise awareness about how forest communities can reduce the risk of destructive wildfires.

Partners in Protection is made up of volunteers from the Canadian Forest Service, Parks Canada, provincial and territorial governments, industry and some municipalities in Western Canada.

Kelly O'Shea, the group's executive director, says the money would be used to promote a program called FireSmart that shows how communities and homeowners can reduce wildfire risk.

FireSmart includes guides on removing vege-

2A two-year pilot project is ready to go, provided appropriate funding is secured, the group said.

tation near buildings and neighbourhoods, how to better plan new subdivisions and spells out how to best respond to a wildfire emergency, including having an evacuation plan.

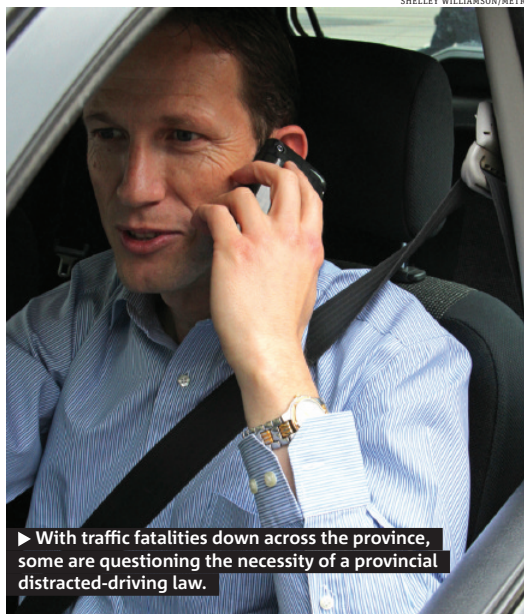
O'Shea says the FireSmart program has been available since 1999, but there isn't much public awareness about it.

He says recent fires in Slave Lake, Alta., and northern Saskatchewan show how dangerous wildfires can be.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Collision decline raises legislation questions

SHELLEY WILLIAMSON/METRO



► With traffic fatalities down across the province, some are questioning the necessity of a provincial distracted-driving law.

► Province reports roughly 25 per cent drop in traffic injuries and fatalities over 2007



JEREMY NOLAÏS
@METRONEWS.CA

Alberta traffic collisions are becoming less frequent, leading some to question the necessity of new distracted-driving legislation.

New data released yesterday shows a third consecutive year-over-year in serious incidents on provincial roads.

There are many factors that can influence collisions, but Alberta's Traffic Safety Plan (passed in 2008) is having an impact," said Donnae Schuhlitz, spokesperson for Alberta Transportation.

While the statistics are encouraging to individuals relying on vehicles to conduct business, some feel it offers proof that planned legislation to curb inattentive actions behind the wheel is unnecessary.

"It feels like a cash grab," said Sarris Descheneaux, owner of Edmonton-based Ultimate Moves, which operates throughout the province. "Texting is bad — I recognize that — but if

No distractions

► Alberta's distracted-driving legislation, known as Bill 16, restricts drivers from using cellphones, texting, personal grooming and reading and other activities.

► The proposed fine for the new offence is \$172.

you're talking on the phone you still have your eyes on the road."

New distracted-driving legislation in British Columbia has already forced Spud.ca, which offers organic grocery delivery in Calgary and Vancouver, to restrict phone policies for all drivers. General Manager Kevin Burbank admits the law has created a bit of a logistical headache.

"I have mixed feelings on it," he said. "I want people to be safe, but people live on their phones these days."

Schuhlitz said a formal date for the launch of Alberta's legislation has not been set, but the plan is to proceed ahead full steam.

"Even one collision is too many," she said.

Drunk driving, speeding priorities

Other highlights of Alberta's collision statistic update yesterday included a nearly quarter reduction

in the number of fatal collisions involving alcohol and a 21 per cent decline in fatalities where speed was a factor. "The safety of Albertans remains paramount and we will not tolerate dangerous behaviour on our roads and highways," said Frank Oberle, minister of public security.

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Thinking outside the bus

► Education board votes to raise transportation fees and end family maximum ► Metro analyzes other ways to get to and from school ► But those opting out of bus service would still have to pay lunchroom fee



JEREMY NOLAÏS
@METRONEWS.CA

Busing fees for Calgary students are going up — but by how much will depend on the grade they are in.

Calgary Board of Education trustees voted last night to subject junior-high and charter-bus students to the full extent of a previously proposed 60 per cent hike, raising monthly fees to \$33.50 from \$20.

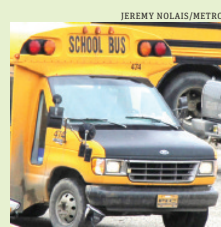
Parents with children in elementary school or those with special needs will pay a partial increase of 48 per cent, with monthly fees rising to \$29.50 from \$20.

"It's really hard to try to compress all of the conversation," board chair Pat Cochrane said of the varying decisions on fees.

The board also voted to remove the family maximum, which was previously set at \$40 per month and intended to assist those parents who have more than two children.

Fees for high-school students will rise by \$3.50 to \$39.25 per month and kindergarten fees will sit at \$21.50.

The board will still be forced to cover roughly \$300,000 of the transportation budget using instructional dollars — roughly the cost of three teaching positions.



CBE cost breakdown

CBE says students take an average of 36.5 one-way trips per month during the school year.

- Junior-high and charter students will pay 91 cents per trip.
- Elementary and special-needs students will pay about 81 cents per trip.
- Kindergarten students will pay about 59 cents.



Best alternatives

Parents or bicycles

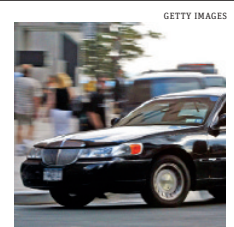
- Parents who choose to drive their kids to school would pay about 75 cents per five kilometres using a vehicle with average fuel economy.
- Alternatively, a cheap bicycle costs \$100 or 27 cents per trip for a full school year.



Pricier methods

Transit or taxi

- A single youth fare for Calgary Transit is \$1.75, and a monthly pass is \$54.25 (\$1.48 per trip).
- Taxi fare costs \$3.40 for the first 135 metres and then 20 cents for each additional 35 metres. Total cost for a five-kilometre trip is \$10.61 plus tip.



Outlandish options

Limos, pedicabs, carriages

- Stretch limos must be rented for at least an hour at a cost of roughly \$150 plus tip.
- A five-kilometre pedicab ride would cost about \$50 plus tip.
- Horse-drawn carriage rides typically cost about \$100 per hour.

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None of these images were retouched. Nanoblur was applied on one side of the face for comparison to the untreated side. The candidates were not wearing makeup and no special lighting was used. These half-face studies show true results of Nanoblur on these subjects.

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Parking tickets delayed

- ▶ Canada Union of Postal Workers will strike in Calgary and Edmonton
- ▶ Parking tickets can be paid online or in person at 3 CPA locations



KATIE TURNER
@METRONews.ca

Although parking tickets won't completely disappear

from the cityscape, the postal strike has bought some additional payment time for those caught by photo enforcement.

With mail delivery on

hiatus, Troy McLeod of the Calgary Parking Authority said photo tickets from the Park Plus system will not be sent until the strike is over. "For any tickets that are

issued through the mail system, what we would do is retain those until after the strike and then the dates for the payment would be adjusted," he said.

Does it matter who keeps our city parks safe and clean?



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It just doesn't make sense to repeat the same mistake. City staff do a better job than private contractors — and when nobody has to make a profit, it costs taxpayers less.

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Alta. tory calls for health-care inquiry

One of Alberta's Progressive Conservative leadership candidates broke ranks yesterday to demand a judicial inquiry into allegations that friends of the government have accessed a secret back-channel system to get faster health treatment.

Alison Redford says only an inquiry with subpoena powers can get to the bottom of accusations of government meddling and abuse of power in the health system.

"My call for an inquiry is about finding out the truth and putting a stop to practices that go against my personal and political values," said Redford in a release.

"These allegations may be true, or not. Regardless, we need to find answers to

Memo released

- ▶ Alberta Health Services released a memo in 2009 advising regional leaders to stop allowing queue jumping

restore confidence in one of our most important public institutions."

Redford, a former justice minister, was responding to comments made recently in a speech by Stephen Duckett, the former head of Alberta Health Service.

Duckett, when he took over the job in 2009, said he learned of a system that allowed government cronies to move up on surgery wait lists.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charges laid two years after robberies

After two years, police have arrested a man in relation to break-and-enter, robbery and theft involving four separate senior citizens.

The suspect, forty-two-year-old Rennie Drake is facing eight charges in total.

He is accused of two wallet snatchings in public bathrooms, pushing a senior citizen into an elevator to steal a wallet, and convincing a senior citizen to hand over her debit card.

The crimes occurred between April 2009 and May of this year.

● METRO

News in brief

City receives digital award

The City of Calgary has been recognized for its innovation in creating an app specifically for the 2010 General Election. The city collected the Digital Alberta Award. ● METRO

Sheltered cats need a home

Animal and Bylaw Services is playing matchmaker, uniting citizens with cats. More than 500 cats are at the Animal Services Centre and the humane society. ● METRO

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'We will not kneel,' shouts Gadhafi

IVAN SEKRETAREV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

► NATO unleashes most punishing airstrikes yet ► Tripoli HQ a target

Moammar Gadhafi stood defiant yesterday in the face of the heaviest and most punishing NATO airstrikes yet.

"We will not kneel!" he shouted on Libyan state television as thunderous daylight attacks sent plumes of smoke billowing above his central Tripoli compound.

The Libyan leader denounced NATO and the rebels challenging his rule. He vowed never to surrender.

Alliance officials have warned for days they were increasing the intensity of their air campaign to oust Gadhafi after more than 40 years in power.

It couldn't be confirmed whether Gadhafi's speech was a live phone call or an audio recording, but it appeared to take state TV by surprise. The sound was

Where is he?

- Gadhafi was last seen in a brief appearance on state television in late May.
- He has mostly been in hiding since NATO strikes in April targeted one of his homes.
- Libyan officials said one of his sons, Saif al-Arab, and three of his grandchildren were killed in that strike.

hastily adjusted to make it louder.

"We will not surrender: We only have one choice — to the end! Death, victory, it does not matter, we are not surrendering!" Gadhafi said.

Highlighting his anger, he called the rebels "bastards."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► A boy holds an assault rifle as people rally yesterday next to Moammar Gadhafi's Bab al-Aziya compound, a regular target of NATO airstrikes.

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Police-reported hate crimes rise: StatsCan

► Race and ethnicity the top motivator ► Increases in hate crimes against all racial groups in 2009

The number of police-reported hate crimes in Canada increased 42 per cent in 2009, according to a new study released yesterday.

Canadian police services reported 1,473 hate crimes in 2009, up by 437 incidents. That came on the heels of a 35 per cent increase in 2008.

Statistics Canada said the number of police-reported hate crimes motivated by race or ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation all rose in 2009, especially hate crimes motivated by religion at 55 per cent.

The number of racially motivated hate crimes was up 35 per cent, it said, while those motivated by sexual orientation went up

54% Statistics Canada said that in 2009, 54 per cent of police-reported hate crimes were motivated by race or ethnicity.

29% Religion was the motivator in 29 per cent of police-reported hate crimes.

13% Sexual orientation was the motivation behind 13 per cent of police-reported hate crimes.

18 per cent.

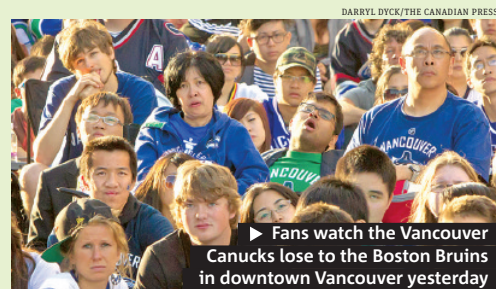
"Violent offences, such as assault, accounted for about four in 10 hate crimes reported by police,"

the study says. "Violent offences were particularly more common among hate crimes motivated by sexual orientation."

More than half (54 per cent) of police-reported hate crimes involved mischief offences, such as graffiti or vandalism, the study says.

"Rates of hate crime tended to be highest among youth and young adults for both victims and accused," it says.

Four cities accounted for most of the increase in police-reported hate crime, led by Ottawa, where the number of incidents increased by 83, Toronto (79), Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo (62) and Montreal (61). **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



► Fans watch the Vancouver Canucks lose to the Boston Bruins in downtown Vancouver yesterday

FANS' PARTY POOPED IN GAME 3



JEFF HODSON
@METRONEWS.CA

The 8-1 mauling at the hands of the Bruins Monday let some of the air out of Vancouver's gigantic hubris balloon and brought the city back to Earth (a little bit).

According to police statistics — the universal barometer for good times — about 35,000 people watched the game downtown in glorious weather and at expanded viewing areas to accommodate

HOME ICE ADVANTAGE



the expected crowd.

By comparison, Game 1 saw 40,000 celebrators, despite torrential rain, while 70,000 people hit the street Saturday for Game 2.

Game 2 also leads the way for trouble, with 46 arrests and 891 booze pour-outs.

JEFF HODSON IS MANAGING EDITOR OF METRO VANCOUVER

PM target of hacking attack

It seems a hacker without a cause was the likely culprit behind a false report on the Conservative party website yesterday morning claiming Stephen Harper had been helicoptered to Toronto General Hospital "after an incident at breakfast."

"He was eating breakfast with his kids when a piece of hash-brown lodged in his throat, blocking air from reaching his lungs," the item reported.

The false report was eventually removed from the website, but not before rookie Tory MP Chris Alexander re-tweeted it.

The incident comes at a time when hacking for fun, mischief, malice and profit has been much in evidence around the world.

A person or group called LulzRaft claimed responsibility and plaudits for the Harper hoax on Twitter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Tearful, but won't resign

► Congressman says lewd Twitter pic wasn't illegal and he will submit to inquiry ► House Democrats express disappointment and embarrassment ► Reflects erosion of support for the 46-year-old New York congressman

A prominent Democratic lawmaker's once promising career was in danger yesterday after he acknowledged sending a lewd photo to a woman over Twitter and then lying repeatedly to protect himself.

Congressman Anthony Weiner has refused to resign even as house Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi

formally requested an ethics investigation.

The National Republican Congressional Committee seized on the scandal as a 2012 campaign issue, issuing news releases calling on more than a dozen house Democrats to return campaign contributions from Weiner.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Not sure of ages

► Weiner acknowledged that he had engaged in inappropriate contact with six women over the course of three years through social-networking sites like Twitter and Facebook and occasionally over the phone.

► He said he had never met or had a physical relationship with any of the women and was not even sure of their ages.
► Weiner said he never had sex outside of his marriage.
► Last July, Weiner married Huma Abedin, a top aide to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

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metro

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2011

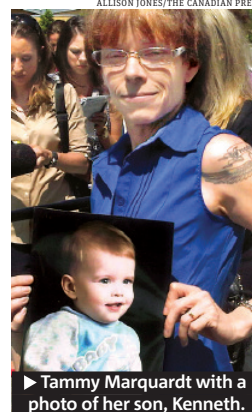
Wrongly convicted woman freed

► Becomes latest person to walk after having been convicted, in part, by Charles Smith's testimony

Shortly after Tammy Marquardt was sent to prison in 1995 in the death of her two-year-old son, she had the word "freedom" tattooed on her arm.

But it wasn't until yesterday that she could truly say she was free.

The Court of Appeal for Ontario quashed Marquardt's second-degree murder conviction earlier this year, calling her a victim of a miscarriage of justice and ordering a new trial. But rather than proceed with a new trial yesterday, the Crown withdrew the charge because of how much time had passed and the "flawed" evidence of the now notorious former



► Tammy Marquardt with a photo of her son, Kenneth.

pathologist Charles Smith.

Ontario Superior Court Judge Michael Brown said it's tragic that it took so long to uncover Smith's

mistakes and conveyed to her his "deepest regret."

Smith, recently stripped of his medical licence for professional misconduct and incompetence, testified in her case that Kenneth was strangled or suffocated.

Other experts have since denounced Smith's findings, concluding Kenneth's cause of death could not be determined, though there is strong evidence the boy was epileptic and could have died from a seizure.

"Honestly, I never thought I would see this day," Marquardt said. She was convicted in 1995 and spent 14 years in prison before being granted bail in 2009. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Police. Blockade



► South Korean policemen stand at a blockade set up to keep back college students during a student rally to urge the government to lower tuition for them in Seoul yesterday.

AHN YOUNG-JOON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Students call for halved tuition

The student councils of four universities in Seoul vowed yesterday to go on a joint one-day strike later this week to call for halved tuition, which President Lee Myung-bak had promised during his election campaign.

Stanley winning name for PM's cat

Stephen Harper's new cat now has a name: Stanley.

The announcement, coming as the Vancouver Canucks play for the Stanley Cup, was made yesterday on the prime minister's Facebook page.

A poll on the site had asked people to vote on a name for the grey tabby. The other choices were

Smokie and Vingt-quatre — French for 24, the street number of the prime minister's official residence on Sussex Drive.

Stanley won easily with nearly 5,000 votes. Smokie got about 1,800 votes.

The Harper family adopted Stanley from the Ottawa Humane Society.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Stanley

THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT/FACEBOOK.COM

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Nintendo unveils new Wii

- ▶ Will the Japanese giant's new Wii U revolutionize gaming?
- ▶ Controller resembles a mobile device and can be used as a shield

Nintendo introduced its new game console, the Wii U, at the Electronic Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles, Calif., yesterday.

Its distinguishing feature is a unique controller, which resembles a tablet computer. Users can play games on the TV, on the controller, or both.

"It's a new structure for home entertainment," Reggie Fils-Aime, president and COO of the company's North American division, told the crowd.

Although the controller resembles a mobile device

— and the Wii U itself is Internet ready — Fils-Aime cautioned that, "it was not designed to be a portable gaming machine, even though it shares some characteristics. The images displayed on the new controller are generated only by Wii U."

"Nintendo needed to differentiate themselves from their competition one more time, and they're very far out of the box with this new controller," Chris Kohler, gaming editor of Wired.com, told Metro.

Fils-Aime displayed footage of New Super Mario Bros. Me and Lego City Stories. Other titles include Batman: Arkham City, a new Assassin's Creed and EA Sports.

The new product is key to Nintendo's future. Although the original Wii has sold 86.7 million units worldwide (compared to 54 million for Xbox and 50.6 million for Playstation 3), sales have lagged recently, with a reported 29 per cent decline in revenue.

● METRO WORLD NEWS

Wii vs. Wii U

What's the difference between the old and new systems?

▶ **The controller.** Wii U's controller is rectangular and has a touch screen, speaker and camera compared to the screen-free baton of the Wii.

▶ **More mature games.** There's more bloodshed in space, sports and warrior games. Compare that to the family-friendly Wii Fit.



Market moment

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RIM connects with Scoreloop

BlackBerry maker Research in Motion has acquired German social game developer Scoreloop in a bid to boost development of social and collaborative gaming applications.

RIM says Scoreloop will help its developer community "take gaming to a new level of social integration."

Munich-based Scoreloop has developed a gaming ecosystem aimed at building communities designed to generate revenue from mobile games.

Its products allow pro-

grammers to build connections from games to social media through virtual currencies, global leaderboards and product promotions.

RIM, based in Waterloo, Ont., has had a stiff fight from technology giant Apple, whose hugely popular iPad is in direct competition with RIM's less lauded PlayBook tablet.

Apple announced iMessage for the iPhone, iPod touch and iPad, which mimics the popular BlackBerry Messenger program.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ The view from a condo in Vancouver beside Stanley Park with a view of English Bay, the park and downtown.

Vancouver housing costs could plummet: Report

A new report suggests sky-high housing prices in Vancouver could fall more than 21 per cent if foreign investment ebbs or interest rates climb.

The report from BMO Economics says overpriced homes in some Canadian cities, along with elevated household debt, suggest the real estate market is vulnerable to a correction — espe-

cially in Vancouver.

It says past housing corrections saw Vancouver home values fall an average of 21 per cent. Prices are even higher today, averaging \$815,000 in April, making the market even more susceptible.

The report says housing costs in Vancouver now eat up 11.2 times of median family income. The Cana-

an average is 5.1 times median family income — a historically high level as average Canadian home prices have more than doubled in the past 10 years.

BMO says current prices suggest that even a modest increase in interest rates will slow the market in coming years. Some triggers that could set off a broader collapse include a

rapid rise in interest rates, a sharp increase in unemployment or a slowing of foreign investment.

High home prices in Toronto also mean the country's biggest city is likely poised for softer prices in the near term, fuelled by a rising supply of condos that could soon outstrip demand, leaving a glut on the market. THE CANADIAN PRESS

STAMP OF APPROVAL IS IN THE MAIL

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO



Vestigial: (vēstij'ēəl): Relating to a body part that has become small and lost its use because of evolutionary change.

For example, Canada Post.

In case you haven't heard, there's a strike going on at the post office. It's a nice, polite, post-modern rotating strike that, so far, has touched lightly on smaller cities such as Victoria and Hamilton, but the posties could hit the bricks across the board and most of us would only notice a slight reduction in the amount of junk mail cluttering our mailboxes.

Snail mail is one of those vestiges, like the appendix, that is hanging around (literally, in the case of the appendix) but has an increasingly obscure purpose.

Unless you're one of those vestigial anachronisms who likes to pay bills by mail and fondle your paycheque for a few minutes before you sacrifice it to

hungry creditors, you probably pay your bills on the Internet, get your pay via direct deposit and send emails to your relatives in Parry Sound, Ont.

Even snail-mail Christmas cards are giving way to e-cards, which you can pick up on your laptop, iPad, PlayBook, smartphone, desktop, etc. Of course, you can't mount them on the mantel, but interior decorators everywhere agree that's a good thing.

"The sad truth is, if Canada Post had an appendectomy tomorrow, no one, except for those 50,000 people with nice jobs, would really suffer."

Snail mail has decreased by 17 per cent since 2006, says Canada Post, and, frankly, it's surprising the drop isn't greater. Must be all those vital fast-food coupons.

So what is the union thinking? Why remind us that Canada Post employees, with no advanced educational requirements or experience, start at \$24 per hour with three weeks' holidays, retire with full pension at 55, and can bank sick days (what's a sick day?), for being the workplace equivalent of the appendix?

The sick-day banking thing is particularly interesting. You could argue that sick days are a humane mechanism, but why should you get to keep them when you're not sick? And turn them in for cash? At taxpayer expense?

The sad truth is, if Canada Post had an appendectomy tomorrow, no one, except for those 50,000 people with nice jobs, would really suffer. It might take a couple of weeks to learn how to send money by email, pay Canada Revenue online, and transfer your holiday greetings to Facebook, but there is nothing that posties do that can't be duplicated online or by private companies.

Apparently, postal Armageddon is not arriving fast enough for the union, so as it teeters on the brink of irrelevance, it has decided to go on strike, finish itself off, and leave no forwarding address.

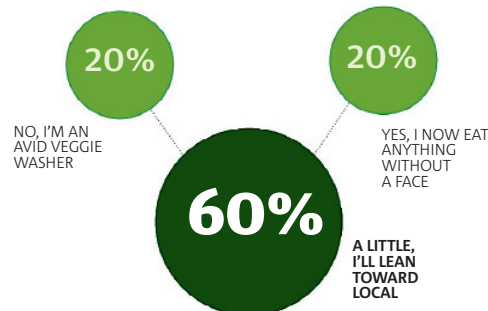
Return to sender. Just sayin'.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsayin



Register at metrolifepanel.ca and take the quick poll

Has the E. coli outbreak in Europe changed how you shop for produce?



Worth mentioning

ROME. Global food prices fell slightly in May, but they will remain "at stubbornly high levels" for months to come, a UN agency said yesterday.

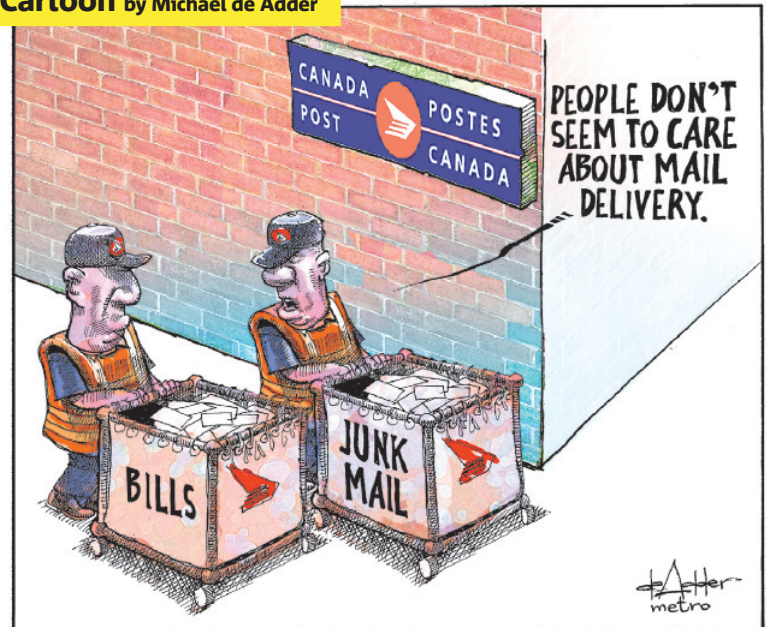
The Food and Agriculture Organization said high and volatile prices can be expected the rest of this year and into 2012, citing a decline in food stockpiles and modest production increases for most of the crops.

Food prices dropped one per cent in May compared to the previous month, but remain 37 per cent above May 2010, according to a price index released by the agency. It said lower cereal and sugar prices led to the decrease in the May index, offsetting increases in meat and dairy prices.

The index hit an all-time high in February, raising fears of a repeat of the food crisis of 2007-08, when high prices led to violence and political tensions in many parts of the world. Prices in March decreased, though experts warn they remain far too high for many poor communities.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cartoon by Michael de Adder



WEIRD NEWS

No sequel for this sheep named Shrek

New Zealanders were mourning the loss of the country's most famous sheep yesterday, a shaggy national icon named Shrek who was renowned for avoiding being shorn for years.

Shrek captured the public's imagination in 2004 after he evaded the annual shearing roundups for the previous seven years by hiding in caves on his farm on the South



► Shrek

Island. When finally found, he was clad in an astonishing 27 kilograms of wool.

That's about five times a typical annual shearing from Shrek's breed, the Merino sheep, prized for some of the softest wool. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2
sceneLady Antebellum
not a 'one-trick pony'

- Country trio wants to move on from the crazy success of their single *Need You Now*
- Next topic: Lady A reveals Sept. 13 release date for their new album, *Own the Night*

Now that *Need You Now* has changed their lives, the members of Lady Antebellum are ready to change the subject.

The country trio will release their follow-up to that Grammy-winning album on Sept. 13.

Own the Night turns the page on a notable chapter in the story of Hillary Scott, Dave Haywood and Charles Kelley's rise from promising country up-and-comers to one of the most successful crossover acts in music history. It's time to move on.

"We don't want anyone to think we're a one-trick pony," Kelley said in a phone interview with The Associated Press from Los Angeles. "That's our goal, to say, 'Hey, guys, we've got more coming.'"

Need You Now was the top-selling country album of 2010 with three million copies sold, and the title track was the top-selling digital download.

Fans downloaded the song about an ill-advised and drunken late-night call to an old flame more than 3.1 million times last year.

It was the rare country song that resonated across the spectrum of listeners,



► Thrown into the spotlight: *Need You Now* was the top-selling country album of 2010 with three million copies sold, and the title track was the top-selling digital download.

"I think for us we're just ready to have new music out there and have the conversation shift toward something different."

CHARLES KELLEY OF LADY ANTEBELLUM, ON THE GROUP'S HIT SONG *NEED YOU NOW*

rising to No. 2 on Billboard's pop music chart. The song netted most

of the major country awards, and Lady A won a leading five Grammys, including song of the year.

The album produced three multiweek No. 1s on the country chart and pushed the trio into headliner territory on the road, where they spent much of 2010 after the January release of the album turned everything upside down.

"I think we'd be lying if we didn't say it puts that

little added pressure on us for this record," Kelley said.

"I think for us we're just ready to have new music out there and have the conversation shift toward something different. My biggest fear is having the conversation keep being about a song that's two or three years old. I feel as artists and musicians we're ready to move on to the next chapter."

Movin' on

Lady A are eager to spin the conversation forward to the May 2 release of their new single, *Just a Kiss*, and fans showed they're receptive.

- The single debuted at No. 7 on the Hot 100, a record for a country group.
- The song is a classic example of the trio's strengths with Kelley and Scott harmonizing over a slow-burning track about simple emotions that most people can connect with.
- The trio now has a recognizable sound that will be featured on *Own the Night*, Kelley said.
- Much of the writing was done on tour buses with the trio inviting songwriters to accompany them for a week at a time.
- "There's a lot of songs I think that have a lot of nostalgia to them," Kelley said. "I think when you're out there on the road and you're so busy, you tend to get a little more introspective and you start thinking about what road led you where you are. So there's a lot of songs looking back at childhood or old love or whatever it may be."

Scene in brief



Space shuttle Endeavour commander Mark Kelly delivered an out-of-this-world message to a U2 concert after Bono dedicated a song to Kelly's wife, Arizona Rep. Gabrielle Giffords. Kelly appeared on a video board from the International Space Station and said "Tell my wife I love her very much."

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Patti LaBelle, Steve Harvey to be honoured at the BET Awards, where Chris Brown is to perform. Scan code for story.

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Graham gets a little goofy

► Playing the 'wacky aunt' wasn't difficult for star as she loves spending time with her friends' kids



SCENE@METRONWS.CA

For Heather Graham, taking on the role of oddball Aunt Opal, a guerilla artist and world traveller, in *Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer*, was something of a no-brainer, since Graham and Opal tend to view the world in a similar fashion.

"I've definitely done that. And I've definitely had the philosophy of how do I live my life as a work of art? Like, how do I get the most joy and pleasure out of every day and just appreciate everything?" Graham says.

Life philosophies aside, Graham was just excited to get into Aunt Opal's eclectic clothes — many of which made their way home with her.

"The wardrobe designer was so amazing — I loved her," Graham says. "Everything she had, I just felt like I was going crazy, like, 'I want this so bad when the movie's over.'"

One of the bonuses for



► Opal (Heather Graham) and Judy (Jordana Beatty) star in the upcoming release, *Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer*.

SUZANNE TENNER

Graham of taking on that kind of role was immersing herself in the world of her young co-stars. "You're not thinking and worrying about adult things, you're just really in the moment and having fun." Also fun was introducing Judy Moody herself, young Australian actress Jordana Beatty, to some U.S. customs.

"We decorated her trailer, because she's never had Halloween before because they don't have it in Australia," Graham says. "We went in her room and we decorated it with jack-o'-lanterns and all of these

things, and we were so excited. We surprised her."

But the Halloween-themed fun didn't stop there, especially considering the bond that developed between Graham and Beatty. "I was with her for her first Halloween," Graham says. "It was after we stopped shooting, but we went trick-or-treating together. And she was a pumpkin. We went to [Los Angeles neighbourhood] Toluca Lake. It was crazy. There's so many people, and every single lawn looks like a set designer built it."

HOLLYWOOD STILL CASHING IN ON FILMS FOR WEE ONES

IN FOCUS

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONWS.CA



According to Wikipedia, books written specifically for children have existed since the 17th century.

Some of those books and stories have endured — Charles Perrault's *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Sleeping Beauty* and *Cinderella* — some have not — remember the 1658 book *Orbis Pictus in Bohemia*? — but stories for kids remain among the top sellers at bookstores and online.

Hollywood has been paying attention. As far back as 1910 *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* graced the silent screen and this summer, 101 years later, the parade of movies adapted from children's books shows no sign of slowing.

Next week Jim Carrey brings the Richard and Florence Atwater book *Mr. Popper's Penguins* to life and this weekend Heather Graham stars in an adaptation of Megan McDonald's *Judy Moody and the Not*

PETER MOUNTAIN/WARNER BROS. PICTURES/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Johnny Depp wowed as Willy Wonka in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Bummer Summer.

In the world of kid lit the name Dr. Seuss looms larger than most. His books are classics; unfortunately the movies made from his work tend not to be.

Although Theodor Geisel (the good doctor's real name) had great success on the small screen with animated specials like *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, he was reluctant to allow his creations to be turned into films. Two uneven adaptations — Ron Howard's *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and Mike Myers as *The Cat in the Hat* — so annoyed

the writer's widow Audrey that she vowed to never again allow live-action versions of her husband's books.

Apparently animation adaptations are OK, and in 2008 *Horton Hears a Who!*, a big CGI film featuring the voices of Jim Carrey, Steve Carell and Carol Burnett earned good reviews and broke the Dr. Seuss silver screen curse.

One writer whose work seemed made to entertain kids at movie theatres was Roald Dahl. From *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory* (later remade by Tim Burton as *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*) to *James and the Giant Peach* and *Fantastic Mr. Fox* to *The BFG* (Big Friendly Giant), his stories have easily adapted to live-action, stop-motion or traditional animation treatments.

Of course not all movies that sound like adaptations of children's books are the real deal. Think twice before you rent *The Woodsman*. The title may sound reminiscent of *Little Red Riding Hood*, but it's a dark drama about decidedly non-kid-friendly events and although *Whoever Slew Auntie Roo?* is based on Hansel and Gretel be careful, it's the stuff of nightmares for little ones.

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Sharon's tough love

Family Guy gets its own comic book

► Says she's ready to speak up when America hasn't Got Talent



IAN JOHNSTON
SCENE@METRONWS.CA

Watch out jugglers and fire-eaters. Judge Sharon Osbourne plans on being a lot tougher on this season of America's Got Talent.

"I'm definitely harder than I've been in previous years," says Osbourne, still best known as the no-nonsense matriarch on MTV's ground-breaking celebrity reality series The Osbournes.

"You don't want to destroy someone's dream. On the other hand, you don't want to give false hope. I'm comfortable in that position of being a little more judgemental; making it more about the talent and not someone's life story."

In a TV world packed with amateur talent competitions, America's Got Talent stands out as something of a throwback to the days of variety shows. Unlike current series like American Idol, AGT offers up all forms of entertainment —

comics, dancers, ventriloquists, geriatric rappers. You name

it, America's

Got Talent has it.

"The thing I love about it — it's not just about the singing. Which can get kind of boring," says Osbourne.

"On (America's Got Talent), the element of surprise is still there. You never know what someone is going to do."

Osbourne always gives the appearance of being in total control — an unstoppable, one-woman media juggernaut with two TV series on the air and new opportunities emerging every day. But, according to Osbourne, it's all an illusion.

"Oh yes. I think I can handle it (her schedule)," she laughs. "But I mess up a lot of plans all the time. I will have to re-examine my schedule for the next year."

Osbourne cautions that the instant fame associated with reality shows isn't necessarily the answer to lasting success.

"It's all about the talent," Osbourne cautions. "With a reality show, you might get there quicker, but it doesn't last long. You can make it without a sex tape or being on a reality show."

America's Got Talent airs Tuesdays and Wednesdays on CityTV.

Steve White, editor of the upcoming Family Guy comic book, is keenly aware of the franchise's history of drawing laughs and making viewers cringe.

That's why he says the new series, published by Titan Comics and debuting July 27 in comic book shops and on newsstands,

will not only uphold the TV tradition of the Emmy-nominated animated show but delve deeper into the characters and comedy of Peter Griffin, his family and friends. "The Family Guy universe is an amazing wellspring of ideas to plunder. It's given us a lot of latitude to develop stories

ranging from one-page gag strips to more extended full-length scripts and pretty much everything in between," he told The Associated Press recently.

The series will be drawn by S.L. Gallant, whose previous work includes runs on G.I. Joe and Torchwood, and Anthony Williams,

who has drawn for Judge Dredd and Batman.

Unlike a rigid 23-minute block of time, having the stories in print means more plot-twists and concepts, so each issue will, on average, have around three stories — a main story, a short tale and a gag strip.

"We're even looking at recurring one-pagers, but as I said, really, the world is our oyster here,"



► Cover of the first Family Guy comic book.

he said.

Turning television properties into comic books is often a successful way of bridging the mediums of comics and the small screen, not to mention the big screen, too. Other publishers have done so, including IDW, which puts out comics based on Doctor Who, The Transformers and Ghostbusters.

Family Guy, which debuted on Fox in 1999 and was off the air for a time and returned in 2005, targets everybody and everything in its story lines: Cookie Monster in an asylum battling his cookie addiction; Dick Cheney as a foul-mouthed greeter at Wal-Mart.

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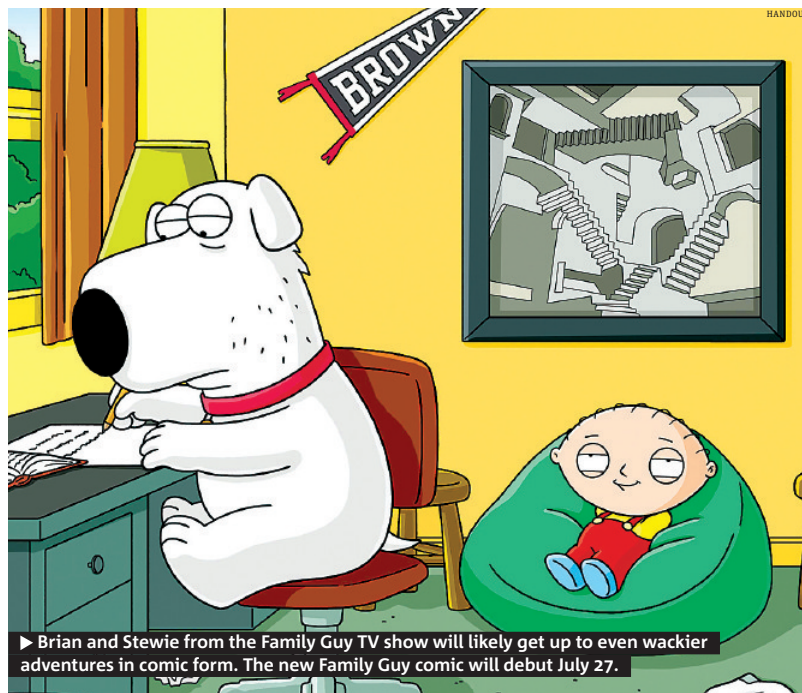
TV picks

Modern Family x 2

COMEDY. It's mostly repeats on TV tonight but at least there's a double shot of Modern Family. In the first episode, Claire tries to slow down a speeding driver. (Citytv)

Kennedy's final journey

DOCUMENTARY. In One Thousand Pictures: RFK's Last Journey, photographer Paul Fusco recounts his experiences as he snapped photos from the train that carried Robert Kennedy's body. (HBO Canada)



► Brian and Stewie from the Family Guy TV show will likely get up to even wackier adventures in comic form. The new Family Guy comic will debut July 27.

Baby shower for Kate Hudson

► Lots of gender-neutral gifts for boy or girl

Kate Hudson is one step closer to becoming a mom again, celebrating with a baby shower at a private home in Malibu recently with guests including Rachel Zoe, Courteney Cox and Jessica Capshaw, according to People magazine. "[Kate] looked amazing and kept giggling while mingling with friends, nibbling on food and playing games. She seemed to have the best time," a source says of the soirée. With the gender of the baby still a mystery, guests lavished Hudson with "gender-neutral baby items," according to the source. ● METRO



► Kate Hudson

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Cheryl Cole not on X-Factor

Producers for the new U.S. edition of X Factor have made it official, announcing that Cheryl Cole is out as a judge for the reality series.

"Nicole Scherzinger will be replacing Cheryl Cole on the judging panel of The X Factor," a statement from Fox, Fremantle Media and Syco TV reads.

"Nicole has previously joined Simon Cowell as a guest judge on The X Factor for the U.K. version of the show in 2010. Steve Jones will act as sole host of The X Factor."

No official reason was given for Cole's dismissal. ● METRO



► Cameron Diaz

Cameron ignores rumours of split

Cameron Diaz is reportedly laughing off reports that she and Alex Rodriguez have split up, according to Us Weekly. The pair have been acting very much like a couple around L.A. recently, hitting up parties for the MTV Movie Awards and the NBA finals looking "very affectionate," sources say.

As for dealing with reports about her love life, Diaz shrugs it off: "If I want to read gossip, I read about somebody else's life. I can't worry about what other people say," Diaz tells Extra. "It's fine to say whatever you want as long as you actually don't know what's going on in my life." ● METRO

Scarlett, Sean Penn still friends

Though Scarlett Johansson and Sean Penn have put their relationship to rest, they were spotted hanging out together recently backstage at Spike TV's Guys Choice Awards, according to Popeater, though it's apparently no surprise.

"If you remember after Scarlett confirmed her split from Ryan [Reynolds] the two continued to see each other and have dinner together," a friend of the actress says. "She is incredible. Just because you are no longer with someone doesn't mean you stop caring about them and never



► Scarlett Johansson

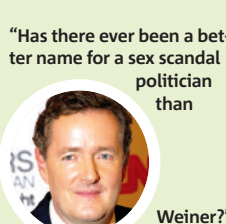
want to see them again. She still cares a great deal about Sean and couldn't imagine seeing him at an event or award show and not saying hello." ● METRO

Celebrity tweets



@nicolerichie

"Why is everyone getting junk mail besides me? All my friends are complaining, and I have to lie and say 'totally, me too!'"



@piersmorgan

"Has there ever been a better name for a sex scandal politician than Weiner?"



@SethMacFarlane

"When society collapses, who do I talk to about being killed last?"



@DamonLindelof

"Emma Frost's THREE mutant powers: Telepathy, Transformation to Solid Diamond and last but not least, Sucking at Acting."

Paul Reiser: Show was caught in crossfire

While Paul Reiser is smarting over the cancellation of his latest sitcom, The Paul Reiser Show — which was yanked from NBC earlier this year after airing just two episodes — the comedian thinks there's plenty of blame to go around. "One of the things I've learned is it's not really a great idea to develop a show at a network that gets

sold in the middle of your term," he tells Popeater, referring to NBC's recent deal with Comcast. "Literally it could not have been a less opportune moment ... It was only particularly disappointing because I thought it was a terrific show and I was really confident that it would find its audience given a chance and run for a long time." ● METRO

Mila Kunis: I'm no sex symbol

Mila Kunis doesn't exactly agree with the idea that she's a sex symbol, according to L.A. Confidential magazine. "I'm flattered, but I'm not that person," the former That 70s Show star says. "Sophia Loren is a sex symbol. If watching TiVo and eating Pinkberry in sweatpants is sexy, then I'm your gal." ● METRO



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3
life

Travel in brief

Bibliophiles who love to travel have a new resource — the website literarytourist.com, launched by an Ottawa-based journalist who says he wants to help used bookstores stay in business. Nigel Beale calls the website a “one-stop shop for literary tourists,” with listings for 7,000 to 8,000 stores and destinations across North America. Places in other countries will be added later.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Replica of Elvis Presley's favourite coaster, Zippin' Pippin, popular in Green Bay. Scan code for story.

Enjoy the sights, sounds of Saskatoon

► Head to Canada's heartland this summer and taste the fruits of their labour ► The Saskatoon berry is a local favourite in many forms

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN

DARREN PARKMAN
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Who knew little old unassuming Saskatoon could be so colourful

and fun? Especially when there doesn't happen to be any snow on the ground.

Part of that colour, comes every year from the rich red juice of the fabled Saskatoon berry, which is a long time favourite of locals, and quickly becoming a tourist attraction for us out-of-towners.

After arriving at the famous “Berry Barn” just a few miles south of the city, I was hit with the undeniable fact that these tasty little berries are becoming a downright industry. We're talking pies, cakes, preserves, chocolates, ciders, teas and juices, all made from

Activities

Other cool things to do in Saskatoon.

► **Walk the Meewasin Valley Trail:** Stroll along the banks of the South Saskatchewan River, which winds through the center of the city. In the winter you can even skate or snowshoe.

► **Wanuskewin Heritage Park:** This national historic site features an interactive museum on local native culture. The gateway to hundreds of acres of scenic trails, prairie landscape and archeological sites.

these berries. I even headed out back to harvest a few handfuls from the touristy berry patch orchard. Inside the Berry Barn gift shop, tourists were snatching up Saskatoon Berry plush dolls. Hey, why not exploit what you have! With breathtaking views of the South Saskatchewan River, and a great little country-style dining room, the “Barn” is



► A beautiful red sky in Saskatchewan.

a great way to wile away a prairie afternoon.

Full of berries, and ready for some high speed adventure, I decided it was time to move on to the new Auto Clearing Motor Speedway, north of the city. Saskatoon has one of the best racing facilities in the country, and I have to say there is nothing like the excitement of a good stock car event in a city that appreciates it.

With a grandstand seating only 3,000, you can get an up close feel for what racing is all about, fast and furious style. That whole baron prairie



► The South Saskatchewan River in Saskatoon.

stereotype of Saskatoon was quickly erased for me, soon after arriving in this vibrant city. Saskatoon berries, and stock cars ... what more do you need?

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Visit the world of Avatar

► New exhibit at Seattle's Experience Music Project gives movie fans a chance to visit Pandora ► 40 artifacts from the movie are on display ► Interactive features let visitors take direction from James Cameron

A music and popular culture museum in Seattle is banking on fans of the Oscar-winning film *Avatar* to take in a new exhibit on how director James Cameron brought Pandora and its inhabitants to the big screen.

The exhibit at the Experience Music Project and Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame opened Saturday after a Friday event featuring Cameron, some of the movie actors and Richie Baneham, who won the Academy Award for best visual effects.

The goal is to educate and entertain, but not go so deeply into the *Avatar* world that it resembles an amusement park, museum associate curator Brooks Peck said. It will be the first of its kind to showcase artwork and props from the blockbuster film.

The exhibit at the museum — built by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen — should also appeal to people interested in the science and technology behind movie making and set design. Anyone who heads straight to the interactive displays when they visit a museum may be surprised by how much of a taste they will get of how the movie and the world of Pandora were created.

Visitors can try a virtual camera, like the one Cameron used, to see how



► Brooks Peck, an associate curator at the Experience Music Project, gets ready for the big crowds for the exhibit on the movie *Avatar*.

the motion capture filming of the actors fit in with the virtual world created on computers. The gadget was created especially for the exhibit, which took more than a year to develop, Peck said. Another interactive allows visitors to take the place of an actor from the film using motion capture technology. Cameron "directs" the guest actor in a scene and afterward they can watch themselves and their avatar on a video screen and post a copy on YouTube.

The main part of the exhibit experiences night and day with the lighting cycling back and forth about every 20 minutes. Tendril-like light tubes hang from the ceiling and change colours as the time switches.

The 40 artifacts on display

from the film — which is a combination of live action and animation — include the skeletal robot weapon or "Amplified Mobility Platform" used as a weapon in the film and the motion-capture suit worn for filming by one of the actors. The robot is only four metres tall in real life, but everything in the movie is larger than human scale and the exhibit illustrates this fact with a giant backpack and some giant shoes just waiting for a giggling four-year-old to try on.

The exhibit is populated with the original sketches and models of the Na'vi people and creatures that guided the animators, from models of the heads of the main characters to intricate, feather-and-bead covered headpieces and necklaces,



► A figure of Jake Sully's avatar character from the movie *Avatar* is shown on display at the Experience Music Project in Seattle.

Some of the art is used as a basis for two other interactive modules: a create-your-own Pandora plant station and a large touch-screen library of hundreds of drawings and short films.

One of the coolest parts of the exhibit is located before the entrance: a large screen showing what appears to be a film of the Na'vi forest, but when visitors step closer, they'll be able to interact with the playful "woodsprites" floating around. Peck said he hopes this screen will keep people entertained if they have to wait to get into the exhibit.

A few steps back from the exhibit, clips from the movie will loop on the

EMPs giant screens along with clips from other science fiction flicks.

The exhibit is expected to travel to other museums in the United States and Canada — the EMP is in talks with museums in Canada, Chicago and the East Coast — but not until it finishes its run in Seattle in late 2012.

Cameron brought the idea for the exhibit directly to Allen a few years ago and asked if he wanted to work together to bring the world of Pandora to the public, EMP spokeswoman Anita Woo said. The exhibit was created in partnership with Twentieth Century Fox and Cameron's Lightstorm Entertainment and Woo said

If you go ...

► **Avatar the Exhibition:** Opened June 4 at EMP at Seattle Center, 325 5th Ave. N., Seattle, empmuseum.org/index.asp or 206-770-2700. Open daily, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. General admission, \$18.

Cameron was involved throughout development.

The museum won't have timed entries or an extra charge to see the *Avatar* exhibit. Visitors will have access to all the museum's exhibits including a recently opened retrospective on Nirvana and Seattle's grunge music scene.

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"Usually I go where I want on stage," John Prine said. "But here I go where the ship takes me."

Cayamo is an annual music festival at sea featuring performers of Prine's ilk — singer-songwriters with acoustic guitars and devoted fans. There are bands, too, and amplifiers, and all of the attractions that go with any other Caribbean trip.

Mostly the 2,000 passengers come for music. That

If you go ...

► **Cayamo Cruise.** Seven-day cruise from Miami on the Norwegian Pearl to the Caribbean, Feb. 5-12. All cabins have been booked but a waiting list is available for rooms that open up due to cancellations. cayamo.com Other niche and genre music cruises listed under "Events" at sixthman.net.

was the case in February during Cayamo 2011 aboard the Norwegian Pearl. It was a seven-day excursion — six days of concerts and one day listening to musicians tune. Or so it seemed.

Main attractions included Prine, Brandi Carlile, the Indigo Girls, Steve Ear-



► The Cayamo Cruise 2011 aboard the Norwegian Pearl cruise ship. Cayamo is an annual music festival at sea.

le, Patty Griffin, Richard Thompson, Loudon Wainwright III and Buddy Miller. But one of the delights was discovering lesser-known acts such as Scott Miller, Chuck Cannon and Roddie Romero and the Hub City All-Stars.

A partial lineup for February 2012 includes Prine, Thompson, Wainwright, Lyle Lovett, John Hiatt and Keb' Mo'.

Acts perform in half a

dozen cosy venues, the largest seating about 800 people. During the February trip, shows began in the afternoon, and music continued into the wee hours each night.

For the many music geeks on board, it was like being a spectator at a golf or tennis tournament. You'd study the schedule at the beginning of day and plan where you wanted to be when, who you were

willing to miss and who you absolutely had to see.

Prices for the February cruise start at \$1,235 per person for double occupancy interior cabins, so Jazz Fest or Bonnaroo would indeed be cheaper. But Cayamo has comfy chairs and no Port-O-Lets, and you're always within walking distance of the swimming pool, a dining room and your bed.

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LUXURY TRAVEL

Escaping to Northern Thailand

► The south might be popular with sun seekers and clubbers, but there's much to see in the north of Thailand ► Explore jungles, villages and temples in this authentic rural area



AMANDA HYDE
METRO WORLD NEWS

When you think of Thailand, you tend to think of endless white beaches, paradise islands or hedonistic nightclubs, but this country has another side — the jungly, adventurous north.

Once a wild and lawless region, inhabited by drug barons and CIA agents, the province of Chiang Rai has had nearly two decades of sleepy peace, thanks to

the efforts of the late Princess Mother, who educated the locals about growing other crops as an alternative to opium.

It's now opening up to tourism, and a slow stream of holidaymakers is replacing the intrepid backpackers who used to be the only people brave enough to visit.

At the very edge of the country, where Thailand, Myanmar and Laos converge in the swirling brown waters of the Mae Khong

River, Chiang Rai is the perfect place to get to know what rural Thai life is like.

Spend a few days exploring the bottle green, undulating landscape — home to Akha and Yao hilltribes, as well as a couple of rescue centres for elephants shipped in from the streets of Bangkok (book excursions with Akha Hill House; 00 66 88 9997 5505; from \$39 per person).

Then make for the sleepy village of Chiang Saen: it's a charming intro-

duction to everyday Thai life. See the frogs and chickens on sale in the market, ask a teenage boatman to row you along the border, and admire the gigantic Buddha that looks serenely over the water from its perch on the shore.

It's hard to believe now, but this city was once the capital of the powerful Lanna Kingdom. You can pay your respects in the ancient temple, Wat Chedi Luang, on the outskirts of town.

3

THINGS TO TRY OUT IN NORTHERN THAILAND

EAT

Sabun-nga

- For a quick intro to northern Thai food (spicy pork curries), try the cafeteria in the hostel Sabun-nga in Chiang Rai city, which ticks off every regional speciality in its vast buffet (SangKhongNai Soi 6; no phone; buffet \$7).

SHOP

Markets

- Chiang Rai isn't overrun with shops like touristy Chiang Mai to the west, but its Night Bazaar (between the bus station and Phaholyothin Road) is a compact, characterful place to pick up bedspreads and embroidery made by the hilltribes.

STAY

Golden Triangle Resort

- Right on the Mae Khong, with lush gardens, spacious rooms and great views over the water, the four-star Imperial Golden Triangle Resort in Chiang Saen is a bargain compared with similar hotels in the area (from \$55; imperialhotels.com).

Quick tips

- Learn about the region's grizzly past at the Hall of Opium, just outside Chiang Saen. This surprisingly balanced portrayal of the drugs trade includes both opium den recreations and a wall of famous people who became addicted to the drug (00 66 53 784060; \$10).
- You can cross the border into Myanmar on a tour of the Golden Triangle — but don't forget to take your passport.
- There are limited international flights to Chiang Rai airport. It's easier to get a flight to Bangkok and pick up a low-cost flight from there: Air Asia (airasia.com) and Thai Air (thaiair.com) both run flights, from around \$36 each way.

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A taste of Vietnam

► For the best of Vietnamese cuisine, steer clear of the tourist trap restaurants and eat on the street like the locals ► Sublime seafood is found in Phu Quoc in the country's far south



NICK ROSS

METRO WORLD NEWS

When holiday-makers head to Vietnam, travel companies pump them full of deep-fried spring rolls. Let's get this straight: Spring rolls are crunchy, melt-in-the-mouth and taste great. But contrary to popular folklore they are certainly not the country's

national cuisine.

Except for pho, which is eaten nationally, Vietnam has no other dish that comes even close to such ubiquity. Overall, the flavours here are vibrant — spring onion, lime juice, lemongrass, coriander, garlic, ginger, fish sauces and chilli. Vietnamese cuisine also mixes textures — so, for example, you may get one dish

which is at once crispy and yet soft. Bun cha is a good example, as the meat, noodles and fresh herbs all have different textures.

However, like the landscape and biodiversity in Vietnam, the cuisine in every region, city or town is different.

Take Phu Quoc, for example, the paradise-like island in the far south. Here the ca trich (herring) is so

good and fresh that it is eaten raw soaked in lemon juice. In fact, such is the quality of the seafood here that you can forget the beaches, diving and fishing trips and just indulge in the cuisine.

Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) is devilish on the waistline, the Vietnamese having an obsession with

sweet fatty meats and fish.

But the real gems here are Saigonese versions of dishes from the former imperial capital, Hue. The



Saigonese have taken this fare, given it a local twist and made it taste even better. To get a real dose of that heady mix of central and southern cuisine head to the restaurant Hoa Tuc.

The street food capital is Hanoi. No matter how grim the weather, everyone crams onto tiny stools in the streets, supping on great noodle soups, deep-fried snacks, rolled wet rice paper and more. In the evenings they take to the raucous, huge open-plan drinking and eating joints (quan nhau) and down glass after glass of bia hoi (smoked beer), before delving into a cooked-to-be-shared hotpot.

GO FROM BORED TO BOARD.





NICK ROSS/THE WORD MAGAZINE

3

DISHES TO TRY IN VIETNAM



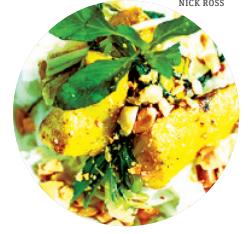
PHO

- Pronounce it "fur" and point at chicken or beef — the latter is often added rare and cooks itself in the complex, tasty broth. Add lime, chili and sweet bread.



BUN CHA

- This typically Hanoian lunch dish is perfect for summer, made of a sweet fish sauce broth, vermicelli, fragrant herbs and small flame-grilled pork burgers.



NICK ROSS

CHA CA LA VONG

- A famous northern dish of river fish fried at your table, with sticky noodles, roasted peanuts, fish sauce, onions and dill to make a light but filling dinner.

Quick tips

EAT

- Vietnam's most delicious food is eaten on the street. If you want the real thing without playing dare with your digestive system, in Hanoi hit restaurants like Nha Hang Ngon or Highway 4, famous for serving authentic classics in up-market settings. In Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), check out Cuc Gach Quan, Temple Club or Hoa Tuc.

STAY

- In Hanoi it has to be the

Metropole, one of Indochina's oldest, most famous hotels (sofitel.com). In Saigon the Continental Hotel is king. Featured in Graham Greene's classic novel, *The Quiet American*, it still has the aura of a more glamorous and tempestuous past (continental-hotel.com.vn).

TRAVELLING

- Be adventurous. It's easy to follow the crowd and do Saigon to Hanoi up the coast, or vice-versa. Find a translator and head to the Mekong Delta, Central Highlands or Ha Giang in the north.



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I just finished my third year of a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science at the University of British Columbia Okanagan.

I live in a small city and find it difficult to find meaningful work experience. I don't know how many times I've heard, "You don't have enough experience," and wanted to scream back, "Well how do you think I am going to get the experience?"

I hope employers will eventually realize how ridiculous this is.

When employers do hire interns and students, though, they should include them in their teams for the long-run.

Nothing is more frustrating than putting in long hours and good ideas, and your employer refuses to see you as a



► Carolyn Mann

long-term member of the team.

What I learned

A key take-away from Carolyn's experience:

- Even if you're only there for a summer, show your employer that you are a valuable part of the team by asking for more work, helping other employees with their work, and going above and beyond your boss' expectations on a regular basis.

I understand that interns cannot always be long-term employees. However, employers should recognize that every new hire has the potential for long-term employment if they prove they're valuable.

Students and recent grads have a different view of the world and bring completely different ideas to the table. Allow them to be a part of your team, and you'll surely benefit.

My recommendation for a similar situation is to gain the most experience out of the job, no matter the work environment.

Summer internships are short, but you will always be able to leverage the experience you gained for permanent jobs in the future.

When I was searching for a summer position last summer, I applied to everything! Even though I didn't meet all the requirements posted, I explained my ambition and desire to learn, and explained how I could be a valuable addition to the team.

It can never hurt to apply, and eventually there will be some hiring manager out there who will see value beyond any lack of experience.

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RED FLAGS OF FIRING

WORKPLACE LAW

DANIEL LUBLIN
DAN@CANADA
EMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM
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Employers are becoming increasingly adept at covering their bases when dismissing employees. Many have learned from past errors that resulted in generous severance packages and now they are motivated to pay little, if any, severance at all. Here are some signs that you are about to be fired that I have gleaned from my clients in the workplace trenches:

- Your performance is suddenly scrutinized. Although your employer need not build a case for incompetence to dismiss you, many try to do it anyway. Their arguments may ultimately fail but, by making them, you become more inclined to settle for less.
- Having turned on you already, your employer's constructive feedback becomes scarce. Once the decision to fire you has been made, employers have less incentive to correct deficiencies in your work and, in some cases, more of an incentive to reveal them.
- If your company pays bonuses, expect to be fired right before yours is paid to you. With your



► Did you see it coming?

departure in sight, your employer has little motivation to reward you.

• Your important work will gradually be moved to other employees to make the transition easier after you are gone. Assignments will become more menial, shorter term and, ironically, easier to complete.

• Even though your important work has been taken from you, you will be criticized for not doing enough and for making errors, however small, that were not previously remarkable.

• You will be left out of important meetings or, if you

are asked to attend, you will no longer play an important role at them.

• Expect that memos will arrive with comments where you were previously given instructions or feedback orally. Follow-up memos confirming conversations about your performance will also be delivered.

• You find your current job posted online — hopefully while you are looking for another one!

DANIEL LUBLIN IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN LLP. HIS FULL ARTICLE CAN BE READ ONLINE AT METRONEWS.CA

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Summertime and the nine-to-five ain't easy

► Yes the birds are singing and you're stuck at your cubicle, but why not bring some of the sunshine inside?

ISTOCK



► Aching to spend some time in the great outdoors? Ask if to work a little earlier and leave a littler earlier so you can soak up some of the remaining rays.

It's summer and eerily quiet in the office. Your cubicle neighbour took off to the cottage and is sure to return relaxed and a full shade darker while you remain the same—pasty and kind of sickly looking. You stare wistfully out the window and wish you could be out enjoying the sun. To keep motivated this summer when you're cooped up indoors, here are some helpful tips:

Colourful clothing

Now is the time to bust out your pinks, yellows, and brilliant blues. How you dress can determine how you feel and heighten your mood. Just be sure to stick with your company's dress code and be tasteful (a.k.a. no flip flops or shorts).

Brighten someone's day

Bake cookies for your fellow sunshine-deprived colleagues. It will be the perfect pick-me-up for long afternoons and may even start a trend of sharing homemade goodies around the office for the summer.

You can also make someone smile overseas. By sponsoring a child with a charity like Christian Children's Fund of Canada (ccfcanada.ca), you can show a child in need that you care.

Ask for flexible hours.

See if your employer will let you come in to work earlier so you can leave earlier and enjoy the summer weather. Or ask to work longer hours during the week so you can have Friday afternoons off.

Get out there.

Pick a parking spot further away from the front doors so you'll spend more time walking outside. At lunch, go out with colleagues or picnic on the grass. Try to schedule meetings outside or at a nearby park if possible.

Be thankful.

Though it's no fun to be staring at a computer when it seems that everyone is out soaking up the sun, remember that the job market is tough and being employed is worth celebrating.

Besides, you can save up your vacation days and enjoy time off during non-peak seasons—meaning less crowds and even better, less cost.

NEWS CANADA



RADIO, TELEVISION AND BROADCAST NEWS- TELEVISION MAJOR

The television industry needs a constant influx of talented people to write, produce, and direct the varied programming and operate the specialized equipment. We offer the training you need at SAIT Polytechnic. Join us on Wednesday, June 8 at 7:00 pm in Room L11 in the Senator Burns Building. Call 403.284.8470 or E-mail: rtbn.info@sait.ca to confirm your attendance or for more information.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION - AUTOMOTIVE MANAGEMENT

Learn from industry-connected instructors the skills you need to get started on your path to a management position in a car dealership, vehicle insurance or credit division, aftermarket company and other automotive related businesses. Enjoy small class sizes and the ability to gain experience in the industry with two co-operative work terms.

Join us on Wednesday, June 8 at 7:00 pm in Room BA301, Clayton Carroll Automotive Centre (use the east doors).

Call 403.284.8471 or E-mail: transportation.info@sait.ca to confirm your attendance or for more information.

BROADCAST SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY

Learn how you can enjoy a well-paying career in the broadcast industry. The Broadcast Systems Technology program at SAIT Polytechnic focuses on the technical aspects of broadcast and qualifies graduates for jobs in Television, radio and other communications fields.

Join us on Wednesday, June 8 at 7:00 pm in Room E-114 in the John Ware Building.

Call 403.284.8081 or E-mail: bxst.info@sait.ca to confirm your attendance or for more information.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATION TECHNICIAN

Are you interested in a career in the telecom industry? Then the Telecom Installation Technician program is for you. This 21-week pre-apprentice program is the ideal opportunity to provide you with the job skills and experience needed to gain employment and prepare you for an entry-level career in the Telecom industry.

Join us on Wednesday, June 8 at 7:00 pm in Room MD215 in the Heart Building.

Call 403.210.4076 or E-mail: ict.telecom@sait.ca to confirm your attendance or for more information.

SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION - NEW - ELECTRICAL AND PIPEFITTING TECHNICIAN PROGRAMS

Come learn more about these 24-week hands-on programs and accelerate your entry into the skilled trades. SAIT Polytechnic invites students and parents to attend our FREE information session on the School of Construction's new Electrical and Pipefitting Technician Certificate programs. Students will receive first and second year training with a focus on the high demand industrial construction sector. Join us Wednesday, June 15 at 7:00 pm in the Chinook Lodge rotunda of the Senator Burns Building. Call 403.284.8367 or Email construction.info@sait.ca to confirm your attendance or for more information.

SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION - TRADES PROGRAMS

Considering a career in the skilled trades? Students and parents are invited to attend our FREE information session on the School of Construction's Electrical, Mechanical, and Building Trades programs, both apprenticeship and pre-employment.

Join us Wednesday, June 15 at 7:00 pm in the Chinook Lodge rotunda of the Senator Burns Building.

Call 403.284.8367 or email construction.info@sait.ca to confirm your attendance or for more information.

SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION - TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

Are you looking for a career and not just a job? Do you want to visualize your dreams, design, engineer and survey future structures, communities and processing facilities? Students and parents are invited to attend our FREE information session on the School of Construction's technology programs.

- Architectural Technologies
- Engineering Design and Drafting Technology
- Geomatics Engineering Technology [Surveying & Mapping]
- Civil Engineering Technology
- Bachelor of Applied Technology Geographic Information Systems
- Process Piping Drafting certificate - 33-week Fast Track

Join us Wednesday, June 15 at 7:00 pm in the Chinook Lodge rotunda of the Senator Burns Building.

Call 403.284.8367 or Email construction.info@sait.ca to confirm your attendance or for more information.

**FURTHER
YOUR
PASSION**



Brown rice for any time

► These recipes showcase how to use the grain in snacks, appetizers, mains

These brown rice bars are packed with dried fruits, nuts and seeds and bound together with wholesome brown rice and natural nut butter. They're portable, convenient and, best of all, provide the energy you need to keep up with your busy schedule. These bars can also be prepared as cookies.

Preparation:

1 Preheat oven to 190 C (375 F). In a large bowl, beat butters and sugar until light and well combined. Beat in egg and vanilla.

2 In a bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder and cinnamon. Stir into butter mixture until well

combined. Fold in rice, coconut and trail mix.

3 Spread mixture into a parchment-lined 33-by-23-cm (13-by-9-inch) baking dish. Bake in the centre of oven until golden and set, 25 to 30 minutes. Let cool before slicing into bars with a serrated knife.

4 Store in an airtight container for up to 3 days or wrap and freeze for up to 1 month.

ALL RECIPES: THE CANADIAN PRESS/ RICEINFO.COM



ALL PHOTOS: THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Ingredients:

- 50 ml (1/4 cup) butter, softened
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) pure nut butter (peanut, cashew, almond) with no additional ingredients
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) vanilla
- 250 ml (1 cup) brown rice flour
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) gluten-free baking powder
- 5 ml (1 tsp) cinnamon
- 500 ml (2 cups) cooked brown rice
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) coconut
- 500 ml (2 cups) favourite trail mix



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Fiesta Layered Salad



Preparation:

1 Cook rice according to package directions. Spread evenly on a baking sheet to cool; fluff with a fork.

2 In a bowl, whisk garlic with lime juice, cumin, salt, pepper, honey and hot sauce. Whisking constantly, gradually pour in oil to combine. Stir a spoonful of the dressing with the avo-

cado. Set aside remaining dressing.

3 In a straight-sided glass bowl or trifle dish, layer red pepper, avocado, black beans, rice, corn, tomato, green onion, cheese and cilantro.

4 Drizzle with remaining dressing just before serving.

Ingredients:

- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) long-grain brown rice
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) lime juice
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) ground cumin
- 4 ml (3/4 tsp) each salt and pepper
- 5 ml (1 tsp) each honey and hot pepper sauce
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) oil
- 1 avocado, peeled and

- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) cubed
- 250 ml (1 cup) chopped red pepper
- 250 ml (1 cup) canned black beans, drained and rinsed
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) each corn kernels and chopped tomato
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) chopped green onion
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) shredded cheddar cheese
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) chopped cilantro

► These Brown Rice Cuban Burgers are a healthy option for your next backyard barbecue ► They're easy to make



► Brown rice burgers are low in fat and high in fibre.

A meatless option for backyard entertaining, these convenient, healthy burgers are flavourful and made with ingredients from all food groups.

Preparation:

1 In saucepan, bring broth and rice to boil over medium-high heat. Reduce heat to low, cover and cook until all liquid absorbed, about 40 minutes. Let cool

2 In skillet, heat 15 ml (1 tbsp) of oil over medium-high heat. Cook red onion until tender. Stir in pepper and mushrooms and cook until tender. Stir in

garlic, cumin, coriander, salt and red pepper flakes and cook 1 min.

3 Scrape onion mix into food processor. Add breadcrumbs, cooked rice, beans, feta and egg. Pulse to combine.

4 Using wet hands, form into 125-ml (1/2-cup) patties. In skillet over medium-low heat, cook in batches using 15 ml (1 tbsp) of oil at a time until golden brown, 6 mins per side. Serve on buns with pickle slices.

Ingredients:

- 500 ml (2 cups) vegetable broth
- 250 ml (1 cup) long-grain brown rice
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) safflower oil
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) each finely diced red onion, red pepper, mushrooms
- 1 clove garlic, minced

- 5 ml (1 tsp) each ground cumin and coriander
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) each coarse salt and red pepper flakes
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) gluten-free seasoned breadcrumbs
- 250 ml (1 cup) canned black beans (drained and rinsed)
- 60 g (2 oz) crumbled feta
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- Dill pickle slices (garnish)

Horton, Rome both gone for remainder of final

► Bruins forward out with 'severe concussion' ► Canucks blue-liner who hit him gets 4-game suspension

There can be no justice when two men lose the chance to take part in the Stanley Cup.

Nathan Horton won't have the opportunity to score another big goal for the Boston Bruins after being hospitalized with a concussion. Aaron Rome, who delivered the hit that put him there, won't play another minute for the Vancouver Canucks this season after receiving a suspension four times longer than any previously handed out in the championship series.

Even the NHL, desperate to take a stand on dangerous hits, doesn't win when it comes down hard on a player at the most important time of year.

"I take it very seriously, very seriously," said league vice-president Mike Murphy, who is handling discipline for the final. "Guys play all their lives to get to this series on both teams, and you might never get back. So I take it very seriously. I do not make light of this."

"I wish I wasn't sitting here. I wish Aaron was playing, and I wish Nathan was playing."

Instead, an emotional series rife with bad blood will play on without them. The league went further than simply handing Rome a record-setting four-game suspension yesterday for his dangerous hit on Hor-

17

It will be no easy feat for the Bruins to carry on without Horton. He had eight goals and 17 points in 21 games in this year's playoffs.

ton in Game 3 — Murphy also issued a warning to both teams that any player caught taunting an opponent will be given a two-minute unsportsmanlike penalty and 10-minute misconduct.

"We've addressed it with the teams as early as this morning, and I will speaking with both general managers and coaches before the day is over about the crap that we're seeing and the garbage that's going on and some of the issues," said Murphy.

The Canucks were in a somewhat ornery mood despite holding a 2-1 series lead heading into Game 4 at TD Garden today.

In their minds, the only thing worse than losing 8-1 in Game 3 was seeing Rome banned for the rest of the series.

"We totally disagree (with the suspension)," said Canucks forward Daniel Sedin. "We support Rome. He's a hard-working guy. He has no intention to hurt anyone out there."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Canucks defenceman Aaron Rome delivers his controversial hit on Bruins right-wing Nathan Horton on Monday. Rome was suspended for the hit yesterday.

4
sports

Quoted



"I waited my whole life to be here. I'm not going to put my head down. It's time to get back to work. Obviously, last night was disappointing for all of us."

CANUCKS GOALIE
ROBERTO LUONGO

Coyotes trade rights to Bryzgalov to Flyers

The Phoenix Coyotes have traded the negotiating rights of free-agent goalie Ilya Bryzgalov to the Philadelphia Flyers for forward Matt Clackson, a third-round draft pick in 2012 and future considerations.

The Coyotes had made Bryzgalov and defenceman Keith Yandle, a restricted free agent, their top priorities this off-season.

Negotiations with Bryzgalov broke down because the Russian goalie wanted

to not only be a top-paid goalie in the NHL, but one of the top-paid players, according to an NHL official who requested anonymity because he wasn't authorized to release the information.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

Papelbon suspended

MLB. Boston Red Sox closer Jonathan Papelbon has been suspended three games for making contact with an umpire.

The suspension was to begin last night against the New York Yankees,

but Papelbon is appealing.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Allen sticks with Celtics

NBA. Ray Allen has exercised his option to remain with the Boston Celtics next season. The decision means the Big Three of Allen, Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett will be together for one more season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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► The Mavericks' Tyson Chandler, centre, battles for a rebound with the Heat's Dwyane Wade, left, and Chris Bosh last night.

Ailing Dirk pushes Mavs to even finals

► Dallas finally gets some secondary scoring to help big German Nowitzki

Dirk Nowitzki and the Dallas Mavericks have pulled off another stunning comeback, tying the NBA final at two games each.

And this time, Nowitzki did it while battling the flu.

Nowitzki shook off three poor quarters to score 10 of his 21 points in the final period as the Mavericks outscored the Miami Heat 21-9 over the final 10:12 for an 86-83 victory in Game 4 last night.

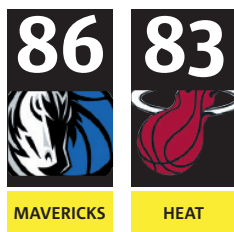
The Mavs avoided going down 3-1, a deficit no team has ever overcome in the final, and guaranteed the series will return to Miami for a Game 6 on Sunday night.

"We just played with incredible heart and passion," Dallas centre Tyson Chandler said.

Dwyane Wade scored 32 points, but fumbled an in-bounds pass with 6.7 seconds left. He knocked the ball back to Mike Miller for a potential tying three-pointer, but it wasn't even close to hitting the rim.

Chris Bosh scored 24 points for Miami, but the Heat got a stunningly unproductive game from their biggest star, LeBron James. He scored only eight points, making just three of 11 shots. He contributed nine rebounds and seven assists, but his lack of scoring sticks out in the loss.

Nowitzki opened the game looking just fine,



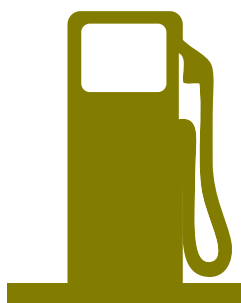
making his first three shots. But then he missed 10 of 11, and missed a free throw for the first time since Game 4 of the conference finals. By then, word spread of his illness.

With the game — and likely the series — on the line, Nowitzki found a way to come through. He made only two of six shots, but that included a terrific layup with 14.4 seconds left.

Hey, if he could win Game 2 with a left-handed layup two days after tearing a tendon in the tip of his middle finger, what's a little temperature?

"We all seen him go through walkthroughs," Chandler said. "Every time he started to talk he started coughing. He was wheezing."

The Heat were up 74-65 early in the fourth quarter, but Jason Terry made consecutive baskets, and the surge was on. Terry ended up capping it with two free throws with 6.7 seconds left. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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GOLF

Injury will keep Tiger out of U.S. Open

Tiger Woods pulled out of the U.S. Open yesterday because of lingering issues with his left leg, leaving him uncertain how soon he can resume his pursuit of Jack Nicklaus's record for major titles.

It will be the first time Woods has missed the U.S. Open since 1994, when he had just graduated high school.

"I am extremely disappointed that I won't be playing in the U.S. Open, but it's time for me to lis-

ten to my doctors and focus on the future," Woods said on his website. "I was hopeful that I could play, but if I did, I risk further damage to my left leg. My knee and Achilles tendon are not fully healed."

Woods said he hoped to be ready for the AT&T National, which starts June 30 at Aronimink, and the next two majors. Then again, he said two weeks ago he would do everything possible to be ready for the U.S. Open, which is far more significant.

"We're very disappointed that he won't be playing in the National Open," USGA executive director Mike Davis said, whom Woods called yesterday morning. "He certainly brings excitement to the event. He'll be missed, but the U.S. Open

will go on. The event is bigger than one player, but he certainly will be missed."

The U.S. Open starts June 16 at Congressional, where Woods won the AT&T National two years ago and tied for 19th when the U.S. Open was last played there in 1997.

Woods was replaced by Michael Whitehead, a senior at Rice who was first alternate from the Dallas qualifier. Whitehead had to win a playoff just to get out of the first stage of 18-hole qualifying, and was stunned to get the news.

"They said on the phone that Tiger has withdrawn from the Open," Whitehead said. "So thanks, Tiger. I guess I'm glad he was listening to his doctors."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jays will need to spend to land pick

Just how wide the Toronto Blue Jays open their wallet will go a long way toward whether or not they can sign Tyler Beede.

The Jays selected the right-handed pitcher 21st overall in Major League Baseball's amateur draft Monday.

Beede, who has already committed to play for Vanderbilt University, said on a conference call yesterday that money will be a big factor in whether or not he joins Toronto.

"It really comes down to, you know, the money, and if we can work things out that way then I'm sure we'll be all set," he said.

The six-foot-four, 200-pound pitcher said he and his family had a few conversations with Toronto scouts before the draft but that talks had slowed.

"We knew it was a possibility that we would go with them at 21 and that they would pick me," said Beede. "But when they said my name it was a pretty much a shock because we really didn't hear about it prior to the pick, but we were very excited."

The Blue Jays have every reason to believe they made the right selection.

A well-rounded athlete, Beede has three pitches that include an effective curveball.

To land Beede, Toronto will likely have to go above MLB slot signing recommendations. It's a move general manager Alex Anthopoulos made several times last year in landing a slew of pitching prospects.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jays win in Kansas City

Adam Lind and J.P. Arencibia each hit two-run homers to lead the Toronto Blue Jays to an 8-5 victory over the Kansas City Royals last night.

► Jays rookie right-hander Kyle Drabek (4-4) laboured through 5 2/3 innings for the victory. He gave up five runs on nine hits, three walks and four wild pitches.

NHL

PLAYOFFS

All times Eastern

STANLEY CUP FINAL

(Best-of-7 series)

VANCOUVER (W1) VS. BOSTON (E3)

(Vancouver leads series 2-1)

Tuesday's result

Boston 8 Vancouver 1

Tonight's game

Vancouver at Boston, 8 p.m.

Friday's game

x-Boston at Vancouver, 8 p.m.

Monday, June 13

x-Vancouver at Boston, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, June 15

x-Boston at Vancouver, 8 p.m.

x — if necessary.

LATE MONDAY

BRUINS 8, CANUCKS 1

First Period

No Scoring.

Penalties — Rome Vcr (interference major, game misconduct) 5:07, McQuaid Bos (delay of game) 11:41.

Second Period

1. Boston, Ference 3 (Peverley, Krejci) 0:11
2. Boston, Recchi 4 (Ryder, Ference) 4:22 (pp)
3. Boston, Marchand 7, 11:30 (sh)
4. Boston, Krejci 11 (Ryder, Chára) 15:47
Penalties — Tambellini Vcr (hooking) 2:42, Ference Bos (tripping) 6:22, Lucic Bos (slashing) 10:30, Boychuk Bos (double high-sticking) 17:36.

Third Period

5. Boston, Paille 3 (Boychuk) 11:38 (sh)
6. Vancouver, Hansen 3 (Torres, Lapierre) 13:53
7. Boston, Recchi 5 (Marchand, Bergeron) 17:39
8. Boston, Kelly 5 (Paille, Chára) 18:06
9. Boston, Ryder 6 (Kaberle) 19:29 (pp)
Penalties — Ryder Bos (roughing), Burrows Vcr, Chára Bos (unsportsmanlike conduct) 3:33, D.Sedin Vcr, Ference Bos (misconduct) 6:59, Thornton Bos (roughing, misconduct) 7:58, Kesler Vcr (boarding) 9:11, Kesler Vcr, Seidenberg Bos (fighting, misconduct), Burrows Vcr (slashing, misconduct), Lucic Bos (slashing, roughing) 11:16, Bieksa Vcr, Ference Bos (misconduct) 17:51, Torres Vcr (charging) 18:53.

Shots

Vancouver	12	16	13	41
Boston	7	14	17	38

Goal — Vancouver: Luongo (L, 14-7-0); Boston: Thomas (W, 13-8-0). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Vancouver: 0-8; Boston: 2-4.

Attendance — 17,565 (17,565).

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PTS
H.Sedin, Vcr	2	19	21
Krejci, Bos	11	9	20
St. Louis, TB	10	10	20
Kesler, Vcr	7	12	19
Lecavalier, TB	6	13	19
D.Sedin, Vcr	9	9	18
Burrows, Vcr	9	8	17
Horton, Bos	8	9	17
Purcell, TB	6	11	17
P.Bergeron, Bos	4	13	17
J.Thornton, SJ	3	14	17
Boyle, SJ	4	12	16
Clowe, SJ	6	9	15
Datsyuk, Det	4	11	15
Couture, SJ	7	7	14

HOCKEY

AHL PLAYOFFS

All times Eastern

CALDER CUP FINAL

(Best-of-7 series)

HOUSTON VS. BINGHAMTON

(Binghamton wins series 4-2)

Last night's result

Binghamton 3 Houston 2

NBA

FINALS

All times Eastern

(Best-of-7 series)

MIAMI VS. DALLAS

(Series tied at 2-2)

Last night's result

Dallas 86 Miami 83

Tomorrow's game

Miami at Dallas, 9 p.m.

Sunday's game

Dallas at Miami, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, June 14

x-Dallas at Miami, 9 p.m.

x-played only if necessary.

MAVS 86, HEAT 83

MIAMI (83)

James 3-11 2-4 8, Bosh 9-19 6-8 24, Anthony 2-6 0-0 4, Bibby 0-1 0-0 0, Wade 13-20 6-9 32, Chalmers 1-5 3-3 5, Haslem 2-5 0-0 4, Miller 2-8 0-0 6, Howard 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 32-75 17-24 83.

DALLAS (86)

Marion 7-12 2-2 16, Nowitzki 6-19 9-10 21, Chandler 4-7 5-8 13, Barea 3-9 2-2 8, Kidd 0-3 0-0 0, Terry 6-15 4-6 17, Cardinal 0-1 0-0 0, Stevenson 3-7 2-2 11, Haywood 0-0 0-0 0, Stojakovic 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 29-73 24-30 86.

Miami 21 26 22 14 83
Dallas 21 24 20 21 86
3-Point Goals—Miami 2-14 (Miller 2-5, Bibby 0-1, Wade 0-2, James 0-3, Chalmers 0-3), Dallas 4-19 (Stevenson 3-7, Terry 1-4, Cardinal 0-1, Barea 0-2, Nowitzki 0-2, Kidd 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Miami 51 (James 9), Dallas 49 (Chandler 16). Assists—Miami 19 (James 7), Dallas 13 (Barea 4). Total Fouls—Miami 23, Dallas 18. Technicals—Dallas Coach Carlisle. A—20,430 (19,200).

SCORING AVERAGE

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	17	155	140	487	28.6
Nowitzki, DAL	18	168	154	511	28.4
Rose, CHI	16	149	111	434	27.1
Howard, ORL	6	51	60	162	27.0
Anthony, NYK	4	33	29	104	26.0
James, MIA	18	154	115	451	25.1
Wade, MIA	18	156	118	443	24.6
Westbrook, OKC	17	135	121	405	23.8

Not including last night's game

RUBGY

2011 CHURCHILL CUP

Tonight's game

At Moseley, England

U.S. vs. Tonga, 12:30 p.m.

Canada vs. Russia, 3 p.m.

Sunday, June 12

At Gloucester, England

Tonga vs. England, 9:30 a.m.

Russia vs. Italy, 12 noon

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

BLUE JAYS 8, ROYALS 5

Toronto	ab	r	h	bi	Kansas City	ab	r	h	bi
YEscor ss	2	1	1	0	AGordn lf	4	1	1	0
McCoy ss	3	1	1	1	McCar cf	5	1	2	1
CPttrsn lf	4	0	0	0	Hosmer 1b	4	2	2	0
Bautist rf	2	1	1	0	Francr rf	5	0	2	3
Lind 1b	3	2	1	3	Butler dh	4	0	1	1
Arencic c	4	1	1	2	Aviles 3b	4	0	0	0
A.Hill 2b	4	0	1	0	Getz 2b	4	0	1	0
Encrnc dh	3	1	1	0	Treanr c	2	1	0	0
RDavis cf	3	0	0	0	AEscor ss	4	0	2	0

Toronto 310 020 020 8
Kansas City 101 021 000 5
E—Treanor (3), Me. Cabrera (2). DP—Toronto 1. LOB—Toronto 3, Kansas City 8. 2B—McCoy (2), Encarnacion (15), J.Nix (5), Getz (5). HR—Lind (10), Arenchibia (10). SB—Y.Escobar (2), A.Escobar (7). CS—R.Davis (8). S—C.Patterson, R.Davis. SF—Lind.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Toronto						
Drabek W, 4-4	51:3	9	5	5	3	0
L.Perez H, 1	22:3	2	0	0	1	4
Rauch S, 7-9	1	0	0	0	0	0
Kansas City						
Mazzaro L, 0-1	5	8	6	6	1	3
L.Coleman	12:3	0	0	0	0	2
Collins	1	1	2	2	2	1
Bl.Wood	11:3	0	0	0	0	0

Mazzaro pitched to 1 batter in the 6th. WP—Drabek 4. Umpires—Home, Jim Wolf; First, Derryl Cousins; Second, Jim Joyce; Third, Ron Kulpa. T—2:55. A—16,539 (37,903) at Kansas City, Mo.

ACTIVITY

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

CLEVELAND INDIANS—Released INF Wes Hodges.

EASTERN LEAGUE

READING PHILLIES—Announced LHP Les Walrand was assigned to the team from Lehigh Valley (IL).

NORTH AMERICAN LEAGUE

SAN ANGELO COLTS — Signed INF Eddie Browne and LHP Cory Patton.

NBA

NEW ORLEANS HORNETS—Announced the resignation of assistant coach Mike Malone to become an assistant coach with Golden State.

CFL

WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Signed DB Andre Jones.

NHL

LEAGUE OFFICE—Suspended Vancouver D Aaron Rome four games for his blindside hit on Boston F Nathan Horton during Monday's game.

CAROLINA HURRICANES—Named Rod Brind'Amour and Dave Lewis assistant coaches, Ron Harris director of hockey operations and Tom Rowe pro scout.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	33	25	.569	—
Boston	34	26	.567	—
Tampa Bay	31	29	.517	3
Toronto	31	30	.508	3½
Baltimore	28	31	.475	5½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	34	25	.576	—
Detroit	33	27	.550	1½
Chicago	30	33	.476	6
Kansas City	26	35	.426	9
Minnesota	22	38	.367	12½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	34	28	.548	—
Seattle	31	30	.508	2½
Los Angeles	30	32	.484	4
Oakland	27	35	.435	7

Last night's results

Boston 6 N.Y. Yankees 4

Cleveland 1 Minnesota 0

Baltimore 4 Oakland 0

Detroit 8 Texas 1

Chicago White Sox 5 Seattle 1

Toronto 8 Kansas City 5

Tampa Bay at L.A. Angels

Monday's results

Minnesota 6 Cleveland 4

Baltimore 4 Oakland 2

Detroit 13 Texas 7

Chicago White Sox 3 Seattle 1

Kansas City 3 Toronto 2 (11 inn.)

Tampa Bay 5 L.A. Angels 1

Today's games

Minnesota (Pavano 3-5) at Cleveland (Master-son 5-4), 12:05 p.m.

Boston (Wakefield 2-1) at N.Y. Yankees (A.J.Burnett 6-3), 7:05 p.m.

Oakland (Outman 1-0) at Baltimore (Britton 4-7), 7:05 p.m.

Detroit (Coke 1-5) at Texas (Ogando 6-0), 8:05 p.m.

Seattle (Vargas 4-3) at Chicago White Sox (Floyd 6-5), 8:10 p.m.

Toronto (Villanueva 3-0) at Kansas City (Duffy 0-1), 8:10 p.m.

Tampa Bay (Shields 5-4) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 7-4), 10:05 p.m.

LEAGUE LEADERS

	G	AB	R	H	Av.
Joyce TB	57	187	36	65	.348
Bautista Tor	52	185	47	64	.346
AdGonzalez Bos	59	245	38	83	.339
Ortiz Bos	57	212	34	69	.325
JhPeralta Det	52	183	24	58	.317
McCabrera Det	59	206	44	65	.316
Konerko CWS	59	220	28	69	.314
MyYoung Tex	60	237	25	74	.312
Moreland Tex	55	180	29	56	.311
Kubel Min	52	200	20	62	.310

RBI — AdGonzalez, Boston, 50; Konerko, Chicago, 46; McCabrera, Detroit, 40; Beltre, Texas, 43; ACabrera, Cleveland, 42; Bautista, Toronto, 41; Granderson, New York, 41; Teixeira, New York, 41.

PITCHING — Lester, Boston, 7-2; Scherzer, Detroit, 7-2; Hellickson, Tampa Bay, 7-3; Tomlin, Cleveland, 7-3; Sabathia, New York, 7-3; Arrieta, Baltimore, 7-3; Weaver, Los Angeles, 7-4; Price, Tampa Bay, 7-5.

Not including last night's games

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	36	25	.590	—
Atlanta	33	28	.541	3
Florida	31	28	.525	4
New York	29	31	.483	6½
Washington	26	34	.433	9½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	37	25	.597	—
Milwaukee	34	27	.557	2½
Cincinnati	32	30	.516	5
Pittsburgh	29	30	.492	6½
Chicago	23	36	.390	12½
Houston	23	38	.377	13½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	34	26	.567	—
Arizona	33	28	.541	1½
Colorado	28	31	.475	5½
Los Angeles	29	33	.468	6
San Diego	27	34	.443	7½

Last night's results

5
drive

By comparison

Acura RDX

Base price: \$42,400
Similar to X1 in size and output, but trails in fuel economy.



Audi Q5

Base price: \$43,000
A4-based wagon offers standard turbo I4 plus optional 270-hp V6.



Infiniti EX35

Base price: \$44,200
G37-based wagon features 297-hp V6. Low profile reduces cargo room.



WHEELBASE MEDIA



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All-wheel-drive

Regardless of transmission, all X1s come with BMW's patented xDrive permanent all-wheel-drive setup.

The system splits the torque equally between the front and rear wheels under normal driving conditions, but when necessary can shift 100 per cent of the torque to whichever axle is driving the tires with grip.

Trim level options

To keep the starting price in low-\$40,000 territory, base X1s will be on the stark side, devoid of leather seats, fancy interior/exterior trim and a number of mechanical/safety features.

On the extra-cost sheet is a panoramic glass roof, bigger wheels, heated leather seats, up-level audio/navigation system and a sport steering wheel with paddle shifters for automatic-transmission models. Also offered is an aero body kit that's part of the M sports package.

Engine

Where the X1 makes a really radical departure from the X3 is under the hood.

The sole powerplant is an all-new 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder that puts out 241 horsepower and 258 pound-feet of torque. That's one horsepower more than the X3's base non-turbo 3.0-litre inline six, but crushes that engine's torque rating of 221 pound-feet. The X1 is also 180 kilograms lighter than the X3, which is good news for acceleration and fuel economy.



► The X1 shares its platform and all-wheel-drive architecture with the Mini Countryman, but the X1 is bigger and, of course, more expensive.

The keys to this Bimmer won't kill your wallet



MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

If you've been loitering outside the local BMW dealership, palms and cheeks pressed to glass thinking that was as close as you were ever going to get to owning a shiny new Bimmer, it's time to come inside.

Yes, the X1 has just arrived as a highly efficient, cargo-friendly and perhaps most importantly, wallet-friendly family transporter that also packs standard all-wheel-drive, which of course is perfect for Canadian winters.

The popularity of the X1 is so great around the world right now that there are shortages that will delay the model's arrival in the

U.S. market until late this year.

Somehow, Canadians lucked out.

While a close inspection and a test drive reveals a lot about the vehicle, the reason for its popularity actually requires nothing more than to understand that the X1 is now the least-expensive BMW wagon in the line at \$40,500, slotted below the \$43,900 X3.

It doesn't really look less expensive, though. In fact, the X1 looks a lot like the X3. A side-by-side inspection is really needed to reveal the X1's more car-like profile in addition to a slightly more elongated nose.

For buyers on a budget who are dead set on a BMW wagon, their wait is over. Now come inside.



► The X3 offers nearly double the cargo space of the X1, but at least you can fold the back seat forward to tote longer items.



► The dash is a bit plain, but nicely turned out in any event. Note that leather seats are optional, which should help keep the base price in the low-\$40,000 range.

BMW X1



What you should know about the 2012 BMW X1 xDrive28i:

- **Types:** Four-door, all-wheel-drive compact wagon.
- **Engine (hp):** 2.0-litre DOHC I4, turbocharged (241).
- **Transmission:** Six-speed manual; eight-speed automatic (opt.).
- **Market position:** The new X1, along with the existing X3, gives BMW two compact wagons. However, the slightly smaller X1's claim to fame will be its superior fuel economy and, perhaps surprisingly, better performance.
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 9.2/6.4.

RAM

Odyssey minivan still a comfortable ride

► Check last-generation Odyssey for possible transmission and steering issues

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Competing with the Nissan Quests, Hyundai Entourages and, of course, the sales-leading Chrysler "Magic Wagons" of its era, Honda's last Odyssey was a five-door, seven-seat machine with V6 power, front-wheel drive and over 4,170 litres of maximum cargo space.

Available in numerous trim levels to suit a variety of budgets, more basic units were badged DX or LX, while higher-end EX, EX-L or Touring models were available.

Look for feature content

What's the 4-1-1

- **Model:** 2005 to 2010 Honda Odyssey.
- **Vehicle type:** Minivan.
- **Price:** \$9,000 to \$36,000.

like navigation, a sunroof, heated leather, fog lamps, Bluetooth, power sliding doors, satellite radio, automatic climate control and plenty more.

Power came from a proven 3.5-litre V6 engine with between 240 and 255 horsepower, depending on the year. A five-speed automatic was standard on all models.

What Owners Like

Most Odyssey owners report satisfaction with overall comfort, ride, handling, power output and even fuel



► 2005 Honda Odyssey Touring

mileage. Styling, spaciousness and the remote-activated sliding doors were also favourites.

What Owners Dislike

Common complaints of the Odyssey include higher-than-expected wind and road noise at speed, some low-budget interior trim and small arm rests for front-seat passengers. Some owners report a low front end, which could get crunched on curbs and steep driveways.

Common Issues

Start a test-drive with a full check of the power sliding doors (if equipped) and tailgate for proper operation. Power sliding doors should open fully and smoothly, and the tailgate should remain open without any help. If that's not the case, the gas struts could be in need of replacement.

Note that power sliding doors in virtually all minivans will eventually fail and require expensive repair.

Skip them if possible.

Kill the radio and drive the Odyssey gently up to highway speeds, noting any hesitation or "shuddering" from the transmission in the process.

Many owners have noticed some form of vibration or "stuttering" from the transmission, and some have had torque converters or transmission mounts replaced as a fix.

If the transmission in the Odyssey you're considering

makes any unwelcome noises or vibrations, be sure to have it looked at by a Honda-trained mechanic.

Ensure the Odyssey's steering operates smoothly, easily and without any unwelcome vibration or "pulling." Numerous owners have reported steering-related issues that could be caused by a failing or faulty power-steering pump.

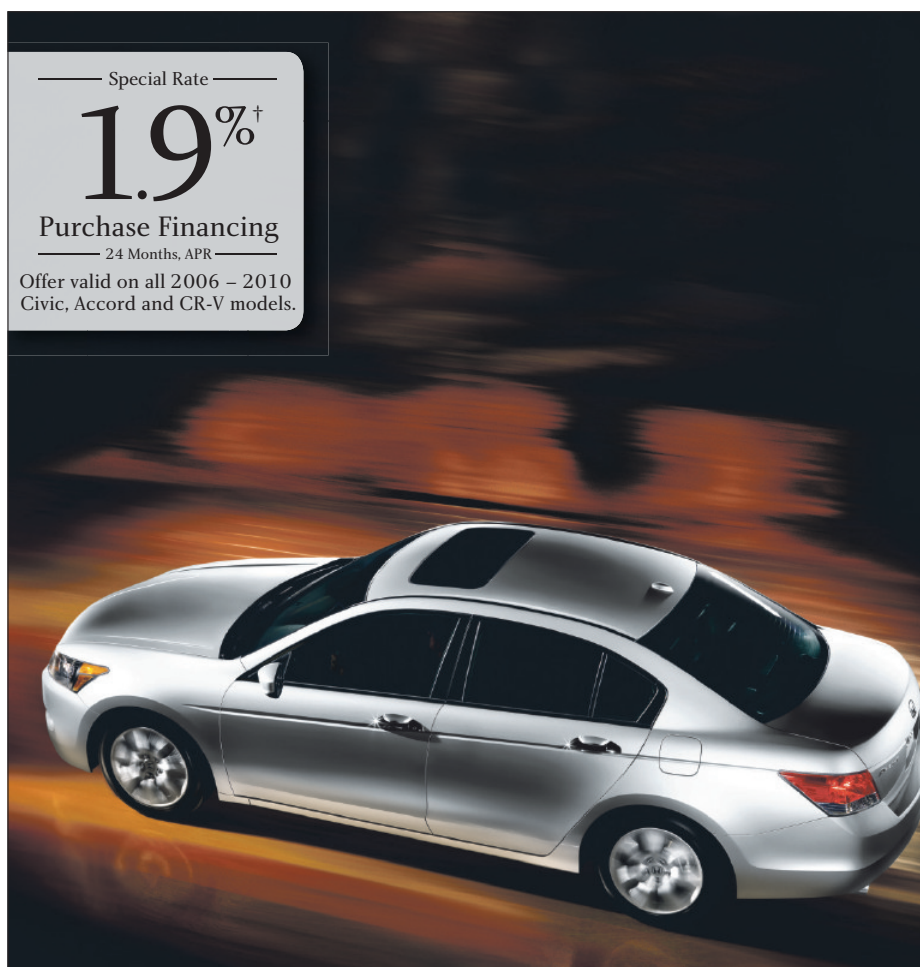
The Verdict

Common last-generation Odyssey issues are well-documented and should be easy to detect and repair for any Honda mechanic.

Most shoppers agree that Odyssey's comfort levels, high-resale values and relative fuel efficiency should outweigh the potential issues.



Check out Justin's video car reviews online at youtube.com/mr2pritch.



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Bridging the gap between gasoline and ethanol

DRIVING FORCE

JILL McINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Vehicles and their fuel have always been a chicken-and-egg proposal. Stations don't carry fuels that cars don't use, and drivers don't buy cars that need fuel they can't find.

One way to bridge the gap is with flexible-fuel vehicles, capable of running on gasoline, ethanol blends, or a combination of the two.

Several automakers offer flex-fuel engines that accept E85 — a blend of 85 per cent ethanol and 15 per cent gasoline. They work the same way as regular gasoline engines, but have special features to deal with E85's unique properties. Flex-fuel vehicles are usually identified by a badge and a yellow fuel filler cap.

"E85 is a little more corrosive than gasoline, so all the materials that fuel touches has to be designed for that corrosion," says Phil Petsinis, manager of government relations for General Motors of Canada.

"The other key factor is

Ethanol facts

- Ethanol is called a "renewable" fuel because it's made from plants. Researchers are working on ways to make it from non-food sources such as weeds, or even from garbage.
- E85 is still very hard to find in Canadian fuel stations, but should become more widely available as more flex-fuel vehicles are sold.

that ethanol has about a third less energy per litre than gasoline, so you have to flow more fuel to create the same amount of energy."

To handle corrosion, flex-fuel vehicles have fuel tanks, fuel lines, injectors and other components that can stand up to the fuel. These are usually made of steel with higher nickel content, Petsinis says.

Since ethanol burns slightly hotter, the valve seats in the engine are harder. A flex-fuel engine also uses higher-capacity fuel injectors and fuel pump to compensate for ethanol's lower energy density. These have to adjust the amount of fuel they pump depending on what's in the tank.

"Back in the 1990s and 2000s, we used an inline fuel sensor," Petsinis says.

"It put a micro-current through the fuel and could tell the resistance difference between gas and ethanol.

"These were expensive components. Today, because of the other things we have to do with engines such as emissions, and through the genius of our engineers, we've been able to eliminate that component. By understanding the exhaust emissions, we can interpret what that engine is 'seeing' by using other sensors that exist in the vehicle."

The vehicle also keeps track of what's been pumped in, since flex-fuel vehicles can run on a mixture.

When the vehicle is started after fuel is added, sensors determine exactly what is in the tank and, if necessary, signal the recalibration process.

It continues to monitor as you start driving and the fuel sloshes and mixes in the tank.

"The beauty of the flex-fuel technology is that as we build more vehicles, there are more potential customers for the fuel," Petsinis says.

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WAITING IS THE SECOND HARDEST PART

AUTO PILOT



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DRIVE
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Hands up if you enjoy taking your car in for service? I see only one hand up, and it's not in a very polite configuration, what with the middle finger so prominent...

OK, so we've established that getting your car fixed is not generally a pleasurable activity.

I think most of our displeasure stems from it being an expense and/or

time-waster you wish you didn't have, and not a positive, or exciting purchase activity — like getting a new flat-screen TV, or going out for dinner at The Hungry Heifer.

So even if the repair shop does everything perfectly, chances are you're leaving somewhat disgruntled, because of that dent on your charge card.

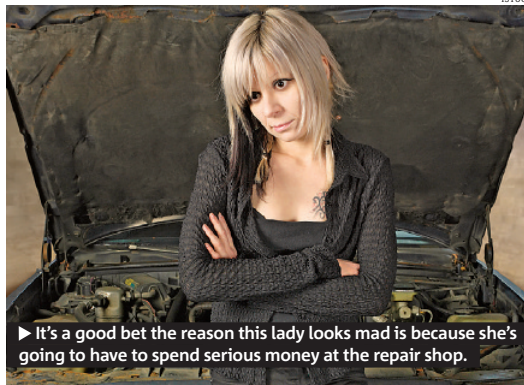
In my case, if I didn't have to shell out every time I took a vehicle to a repair shop, I'd probably do it at least once a week.

I love talking to and watching mechanics, and having something mended, maintained, or upgraded on one of our vehicles.

But I have my limits.

Like anybody, I've experienced my share of misdiagnosed repairs and their subsequent misery.

But they are not at the top of my list of repair shop turn-offs, because



those are generally honest mistakes, made by people working on the sharp end of trying to right malfunctioning technology.

Reminds me of the sticker on my father's toolbox that read: "The man who makes no mistakes does not usually make anything."

No, topping my list of repair shop turn-offs is the waiting room.

Some shops and practi-

cally all new-car dealerships don't like you bugging the mechanics while they work — and who can blame them?

So you must sit in this weird "living room" type area somewhere in the shop.

But it's like a living room in an alternative universe, where you can't leave until someone in charge lets you leave, and you can't change the

stations on the TV, even if it's ShamWow, Oprah, or General Hospital.

If it's General Hospital, your aggravation is even exasperated, because, as a very irregular viewer you don't know any back-story, like why Dr. Lainey Winters is so currently peeved at Dr. Matt Hunter.

Actually I lied.

The one-channel waiting room is really just the runner-up on my list of repair shop turn-offs.

The one right at the top is irrational pricing for switching tires around.

This spring a dealership charged me \$49 to take my snow tires off and put my summer tires on (the latter already on their own, dedicated rims). But this same dealership charges only \$19.95 for a tire rotation — essentially the same amount of work, and work that doesn't even need to be done by a licensed technician.

When I questioned the service advisor about this weirdness, she sympathized, but said her hands were tied. And this is not an uncommon pricing strategy among tire and repair shops.

The main reason I took the car to this dealership was to find out why the "Check Engine" light was on. I threw the summer tires in the car at the last minute, knowing they'd charge me a bit more than other places, but it would save me a trip.

The "Check Engine" part of the work order they did brilliantly. Got the car in quick. Explained everything they did. Charged not a cent over what they quoted.

But the prevailing feeling I had as I drove away was that they "got" me on the tire thing.

And that Dr. Matt Hunter is probably not a stand-up guy.



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Proudly 

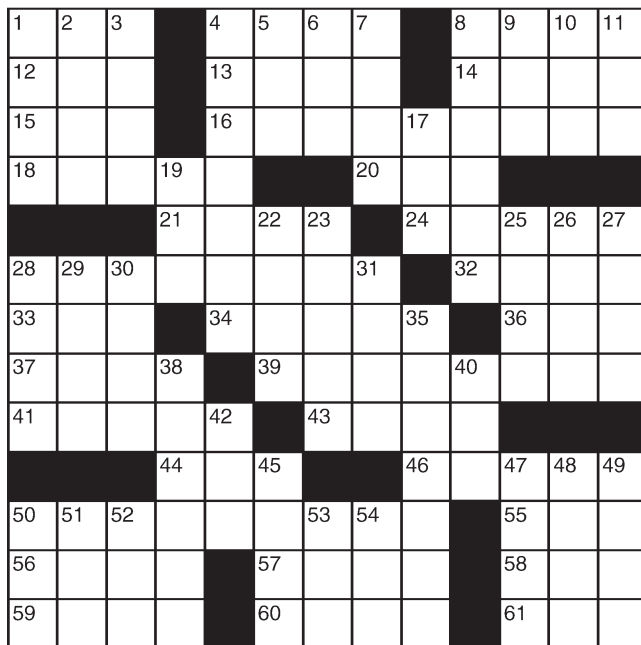
Crossword

Across

- 1 Wood-shaping tool
- 4 Peruse
- 8 This and that
- 12 "Ostentatious? —?"
- 13 Canal city
- 14 Finished
- 15 Hostel
- 16 "No Place That Far" singer
- 18 Summarize
- 20 Calendar abbr.
- 21 Sci-fi knight
- 24 Grit one's teeth
- 28 Arabian nomads
- 32 Vocal comeback
- 33 Lawyers' org.
- 34 Dutch bloom
- 36 Cage component
- 37 Bigfoot's cousin
- 39 1984 Winter Olympics site
- 41 Word on the street?
- 43 Lived
- 44 Bankroll
- 46 Expiate
- 50 Minuet-like dances
- 55 Book spine abbr.
- 56 Gel in a Petri dish
- 57 Nevada city
- 58 Doctrine
- 59 Frog's hangout
- 60 List-ending abbr.
- 61 — Moines

Down

- 1 Eastern potentate (Var.)
- 2 Finished
- 3 Galvanizing material
- 4 Aretha classic
- 5 Historic time
- 6 Melody

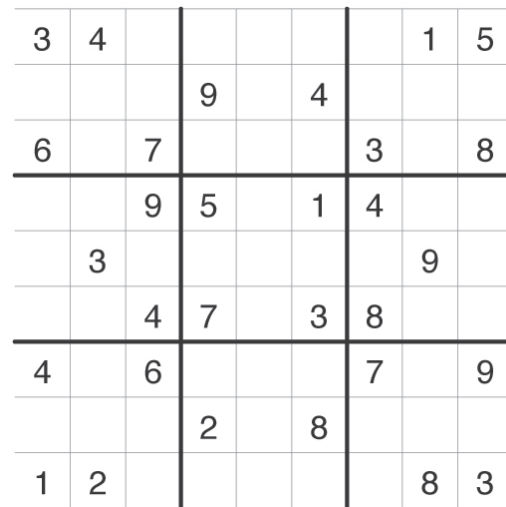


- 7 Unhearing
- 8 Of cattle
- 9 Eggs
- 10 X rating?
- 11 Day divs.
- 17 Work unit
- 19 1977 Steely Dan album
- 22 — ex machina
- 23 Relative by marriage (Var.)
- 25 Farm fraction
- 26 Con's weapon
- 27 Vagrant
- 28 Puts into words
- 29 First victim
- 30 — -tat-tat
- 31 Paddock papa
- 35 Sunshade
- 38 To the center
- 40 Lustrous black
- 42 Talk on and on
- 45 Challenge
- 47 "Metamorphoses" poet
- 48 Schnozz
- 49 "Desire Under the —"
- 50 Potential syrup
- 51 Past
- 52 Scooted
- 53 Trawler need
- 54 "CSI" evidence

► Yesterday's answer



Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ►

9	3	7	8	1	5	4	2	6
5	1	4	6	2	9	7	3	8
8	2	6	3	7	4	1	5	9
3	6	9	7	4	2	5	8	1
2	7	8	1	5	6	3	9	4
1	4	5	9	3	8	2	6	7
6	5	1	4	9	3	8	7	2
7	9	2	5	8	1	6	4	3
4	8	3	2	6	7	9	1	5

A look at the weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Min 7° Max 14°	Min 5° Max 19°	Min 11° Max 23°

Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist

"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta." WEEKDAYS 6AM



Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 If you want a relationship to get back to how it used to be, you must discuss the future — together.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 You know that you have what it takes to reach the top but others may still need convincing.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Best way to win others over is to act as if their approval means nothing.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 A family member will bring some unexpected news today. You will realize you should have seen it coming.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23 If there is someone you have been neglecting, now you must get things back to how they used to be.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Under no circumstances should you try to blame others for your failures.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 You need to convince people you live, work and do business with that you know what you are doing.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 The doubts and worries of the past few weeks will fade into nothing over the next 24 hours.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You see clearer and further than most other people, so trust what your inner voice tells you.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You will have to make a difficult choice concerning your work today.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 From today, you will have a clearer picture of what must be done to make life more enjoyable.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. No matter how reticent a Pisces you may be, you must speak up if you need help. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest



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Marlborough Mall
Pacific Place
Sunridge Mall
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Bow Valley Square
Chinook Centre
Southcentre Mall
TD Square
Westbrook Mall
WestHills Towne Centre
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835 17th Ave. SW
16061 MacLeod Trail S
6100 MacLeod Trail S
4623 Bow Trail SW
321 6th Ave. SW
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